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Library Economy and Bibliography

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Contents.

	PAGE		PAGE
LIBRARY OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS, BROOKLYN, N. Y. <i>Frontispiece.</i>		BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF CHICAGO. . . .	618
EDITORIALS.	591	LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. . . .	619
The Niagara Falls Conference.		AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.	620
Net Prices and Public Libraries.		Committee Appointments.	620
Library Training.		STATE LIBRARY COMMISSIONS.	620
Headquarters for the A. L. A.		Colorado.	620
COMMUNICATIONS.	592	STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.	620
Manufacturing Progress.		Michigan.	
NOTES ON ENGLISH PUBLIC LIBRARIES. — N. D. C. Hodges.	593	Rhode Island.	
THE WORK OF THE SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARY. — A. E. Bostwick.	596	Vermont.	621
THEOLOGICAL LITERATURE IN LIBRARIES. — S. G. Ayres.	601	LIBRARY CLUBS.	621
MAKING A LIBRARY USEFUL. — <i>Eliza Witham.</i>	604	Bay Path.	
THE ENGLISH SITUATION AS TO NET BOOKS — PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS BY LIBRARIANS.	605	Cape Cod.	621
SOME IMPRESSIONS OF A VISIT TO AMERICAN LIBRARIES. — <i>Andr. Sch. Steenberg.</i>	606	LIBRARY SCHOOLS AND TRAINING CLASSES.	623
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE LIBRARIANS: SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.	608	Chautauqua.	
A LIBRARY FOR LIBRARIANS. — <i>V. H. Paltsits.</i>	614	Illinois.	
NOTES AND FIGURES ABOUT THE CIRCULATION OF NOVELS IN THE NEWARK FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY. — <i>J. C. Dunn.</i>	615	New York.	
THE LIBRARY OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS. — <i>A. T. Huntington.</i>	615	Simmons College.	623
LIBRARY DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL EDUCATION- AL ASSOCIATION.	617	REVIEWS.	625
		Hancv. Bibliography of Coleridge.	
		Naudé. Instructions concerning erecting of a library.	
		Steenberg. Om folksbibliotek.	628
		LIBRARY ECONOMY AND HISTORY.	628
		GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.	634
		LIBRARIANS.	634
		CATALOGING AND CLASSIFICATION.	636
		BIBLIOGRAPHY.	637
		ANONYMS AND PSEUDONYMS.	638
		HUMORS AND BLUNDERS.	638

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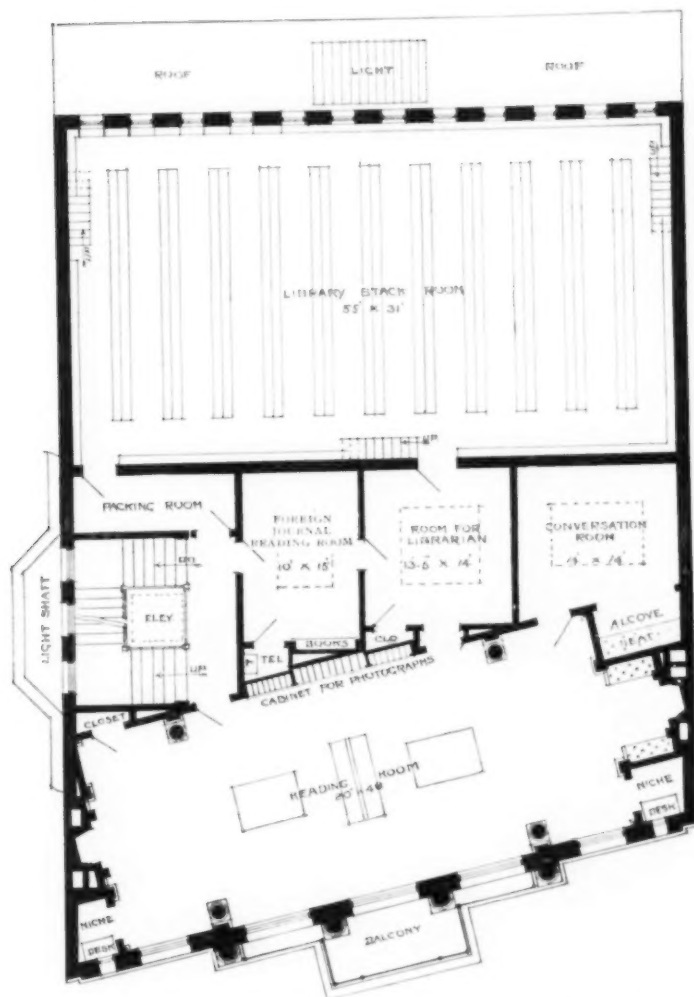
British published Books are becoming daily scarcer, owing mainly to the enormous increase of Public Libraries, and the widely spreading demand for British published Books.

The following opinion was recently received from a correspondent:

"For some five or six and thirty years you have given us a service which in point of intelligence, accuracy and promptness could not in my opinion be surpassed. We have never had occasion to correct an account or to complain of delay. The various duties of collecting blue-books, pamphlets, continuations, rare books, etc., and of binding and shipping, have been discharged with energy, rapidity and economy. Your advice has always been sound and to our advantage; and I must add that my most cordial acknowledgment is due to you for your constant patience and courtesy in the tasks I have so often gratuitously imposed on you—in *re*, case of public men visiting London and requiring assistance and advice. Wishing you every success in your affairs."

EDW. G. ALLEN believes that he may fairly claim to be a Benefactor to the Intellectual Life of America, having, during his long experience of Library Work, shipped to American Libraries over two million Books, of course involving a very large expenditure of money.

1856—1903.



MAIN FLOOR PLAN, LIBRARY OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS



LIBRARY OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF COUNTY OF KINGS, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 28.

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As was expected, the Niagara Falls meeting of the American Library Association did not reach the standard set at Magnolia last year in point of numbers; but it fulfilled expectations in bringing together a representative attendance of about seven hundred persons. In the importance and variety of the subjects presented it ranks as a close second to last year's conference, and, as was the case at Magnolia, the beauty of the meeting-place made the rush of constant sessions and the strain of an overcrowded program less burdensome than they would otherwise have been, while the Canadian post-conference trip proved a most refreshing and delightful finale. The chief criticism to be made is the familiar one—the overcrowding of the program, and the consequent difficulty of securing deliberate consideration of important subjects. To a degree this overcrowding is inevitable in any organization which aims to give representation to so many diverse interests and activities as does the Library Association, but the high pressure point touched at Niagara Falls is open to serious objection. It resulted in an atmosphere of confusion and disorganization, and made discussion impossible or perfunctory on topics that are of general timeliness and interest. This was the more to be regretted, in view of the fact that several of the committee reports presented this year treated important subjects in an unusually suggestive way, and demanded much more attention than it was possible to accord to them. No one who reviews the material presented in the volume of Proceedings, now in the hands of readers of the JOURNAL, but must feel that the compression of all this within four days could be accomplished only at a sacrifice of intelligent consideration.

Of course the net-price system was the burning question of the meeting. The discussion on this subject overflowed the limits set and made evident how strong is the feeling of grievance on the part of librarians. It resulted in the appointment of a committee

by the Council, adequately financed, and charged with the definite task of securing information upon the general subject and recommending methods of mitigation or evasion of the difficulties entailed by the net rule. The testimony of the librarians present was to the effect that the cost of books under the net system has increased from 18 to 20 per cent., and that the efficiency of the smaller public libraries in particular has been seriously impaired; the chief measures of remedy advocated were refusal to buy net books during the period of protection and the importation of English editions wherever possible. The publishers' side of the question was presented by a representative of the firm of A. C. McClurg & Co. in a manner at once fair-minded, friendly and temperate, though distinctly discouraging, so far as the librarians' claim for a better discount is concerned. Practically, the situation seems at a deadlock. It is apparent that from the standpoint of a large proportion of the booktrade the public library is regarded as a hindrance rather than an aid in the sale of books, and a reduction in library purchases is contemplated with at least a semblance of equanimity. From the point of view of the librarian, the public library, by virtue of its large purchases and its character as an educational institution, is entitled to better rates, while it is also believed that in aiding in the general distribution of books it is developing the habit of book buying. It will be difficult to bridge the difference between these two standpoints, and the fact that libraries must have books if they are to carry on their work puts them under a heavy handicap in the controversy. Practically the same situation exists at the present time in Great Britain, and the article in the *Library*, reprinted elsewhere, shows that English librarians are considering measures parallel with those advocated by their brethren on this side of the Atlantic. How far these measures will be effective it is hard to say; but it is much to be hoped that concessions in detail on both sides may result in a reasonable adjustment.

ONE of the most noteworthy reports ever presented to the Library Association was that prepared for the Niagara Falls meeting by the Committee on Library Training. It may be regarded as practically the last word on conditions of library training as they exist at the present time, and it has opened the way for the formulation of certain definite requirements that should raise the standards of training all along the line. To this end the committee recommends that the present committee of five on library training be replaced by a standing committee of eight, representing respectively a state library commission, a free circulating library, a college or reference library, a library trustee, and four library school graduates engaged in active work, this committee to report each year to the Association, and its report to be made a subject of discussion and not accepted in routine order. As the present committee is still engaged in defining the standards that it regards as desirable for the various agencies of training, this recommendation has not yet been acted upon by the Council. It would involve a change in the present by-laws of the Association, which provide for a committee of five on this subject, and it is perhaps unwise to make hard and fast requirements as to the *personnel* of any committee; but at the same time it is most desirable that the work done by the present committee should have the encouragement it deserves, and that the matter be not allowed to drop in the interval between conferences. It should be possible to carry out without delay one other suggestion of the committee, the publication by the A. L. A. Publishing Board of a pamphlet on library training, and we strongly recommend that such a pamphlet include or embody the committee's own report on this subject. Its issue in a form permitting wide distribution and easy reference would be a distinct service to library interests.

THE matter of a central office or headquarters for the American Library Association was brought up at the Niagara meeting in a way that seems to promise definite results. The paper on this subject by Mr. George Iles was a clear and convincing presentation of the need of such a headquarters and the great influence it could exert in aiding and perfect-

ing library development. Its discussion was rather in the nature of assent to Mr. Iles' thesis than consideration of the details involved; but it was evident that the matter is now, almost for the first time, regarded as a practical rather than a theoretical one. As a result of its presentation the Council has appointed a special committee to "formulate a plan for a permanent headquarters of the A. L. A., estimate the necessary expense, consider means by which this expense may be met," and report to the Council with as little delay as possible. The committee, of which the president of the Association is chairman, has already invited Mr. Iles and Mr. Dewey—the latter a pioneer in this as in most of the new departures that have meant so much in the modern library movement—to present their views for its consideration; and it is desirable that it should have the benefit of the opinions and suggestions of others. If the establishment of an A. L. A. headquarters should prove practicable, through endowment or other means, its organization ought to represent the very best thought and foresight of the library profession.

Communications.

MANUFACTURING PROGRESS.

AMONG the volumes of the United States Census published last year are four on Manufactures. Vols. I. and II. are purely statistical; vols. III. and IV. are descriptive and historical as well as statistical. The contributions to vols. III. and IV. are so excellent that they deserve to be brought to the attention of readers and students by detailed references in the card catalogs of our college and public libraries. Each theme is treated by a specialist, and usually in a thoroughly readable style. Based on statistical facts as these sketches are, they have distinct value in supplementing the latest and best cyclopedias. Among the subjects treated at greatest length are: Textiles, Food and kindred products, Lumber, Paper and pulp, Printing and publishing, Iron and steel, Electrical apparatus, Locomotives and cars, Bicycles, Agricultural implements, Watches, and Chemicals, with an elaborate digest of patents relating to chemistry.

It is quite likely that if we had an A. L. A. headquarters its officers might further find some good themes for reference in every other volume of the Twelfth Census. In many ways these publications seem to mark an advance on those of censuses preceding.

GEORGE ILES.

NOTES ON ENGLISH PUBLIC LIBRARIES.*

BY N. D. C. HODGES, *Librarian Cincinnati (O.) Public Library.*

IN the summer of 1902 it was my fortune to visit England, mainly for a view of English public libraries; and, concentrating my vision upon these, I am inspired to say as many pretty things of my hosts as I can find words for, and the more as I would make amends for the adverse criticism which has been all too common.

The public library movement began simultaneously in England and America. New Hampshire is credited with passing the first statute authorizing a tax levy for the maintenance of libraries. This was in 1849. The English Free Library Act was passed in 1850, and the Massachusetts law followed in 1851. But these dates do not signify so much. In the middle years of the last century there was a general awakening throughout England and America to the value of free libraries. Before that time books had been supplied in a half public way through circulating library societies, apprentices' libraries and mechanics' institutes. With the variation of a year here and there, the history of these undertakings was the same in Cincinnati as in Liverpool.

The English act makes the establishment of a library optional, each borough or town voting whether it will accept the act or not. Where the act is adopted the control is vested in the town council, or local legislative body, which appoints a library committee either wholly from its own members or partly of councilmen and partly of others supposed to be interested in library or educational matters. While the library boards in America are generally small bodies of five or seven members, the library committees of England often number eighteen to twenty and more. Not only is the transaction of business more difficult with the membership so large but, of necessity, those on the committees who have given little thought to libraries fail to grasp the problems of library management during the year for which they are appointed or elected. This mode of control may have worked to the

disadvantage of libraries in Great Britain.

Previous to the Queen's jubilee, in 1887, there was one public library, as Americans understand the term, in what we call London, and this was a conservatively managed institution with a limited clientele. 1887 would seem a recent date from which to reckon the history of the public library movement in a world-city like London, but let us remember that in New York the Free Circulating Library was opened in 1880, and that not until 1894 was the Free Library of Philadelphia a fact. New York had its Society, Mercantile, Astor, Lenox and Apprentices' libraries, and Philadelphia the Library Company and Mercantile for years before, it is true; while, for the good name of London, it is necessary to mention only the British Museum and we must all bow our heads. Then there are in London, and not dating from yesterday, a hundred and half another hundred of endowed, collegiate and proprietary libraries, not a few with collections ranging into the hundreds of thousands.

American men and women of means have given generously of their wealth for the founding and maintenance of public libraries, and this practice has become so common that we are accustomed to think it one other happy circumstance peculiar to American life. But which of our American libraries may we compare with the John Rylands Library of Manchester? Perhaps the Astor comes as near as any. Yet to no American library has been given an initial collection of 40,000 volumes costing \$1,250,000, a building of the size and charm of that in Manchester and an endowment which has allowed of increasing the number of books to 80,000, and all within a dozen years. The nucleus of the John Rylands collection was the famous Althorp library, purchased from Earl Spencer by Mrs. Rylands in 1892. Manchester is a manufacturing city of half a million of people, people who might be excused if proved to be philistines of the philistines. And here it has a library for scholars without match in any American city of its size.

* Read at Niagara Falls Conference of American Library Association, June 23, 1903.

Manchester also has a public library, which serves the more commonplace book needs of the city. The John Rylands Library is for the aristocracy, not of wealth or family but of culture. The Public Library makes a showing above cavil in dates and statistics, antedating the Boston Public by a year or so, having been opened Sept. 2, 1852, and operating, besides the main library, twelve branches and five reading rooms, to which in a year throng more than 4,000,000 readers, while the number of books issued for home use or consulted at the reference library is large; in fact, there is nothing in the figures to show that the service rendered is not commensurate with what is accomplished in any of our public libraries.

The Openshaw branch of the Manchester library is not without its suggestiveness. It is certainly different from the average branch library in America, and it cannot be gainsaid that, while not unique, it has features not common in England. The buildings were erected at the joint cost of the Manchester corporation and the legatees of the late Sir Joseph Whitworth, the Whitworth legatees contributing £8500 out of a total of £15,000. The opening ceremonies were held July 7, 1894. Something should be said here of the coffee tavern, games room and smoking and billiard rooms. This last contains three tables, which are a source of revenue—a small charge being made for each game. The coffee tavern proved not to be needed in that locality, while the games room and billiard room have become so popular that a doubt has arisen whether they do not seriously interfere with the more intellectual side of the institution.

Hard by the cathedral of Manchester is a venerable institution known as Chetham College. This foundation, which dates from 1653, cares for a school of orphan boys and a library. Some American librarian has referred to this as an example of everything a public library should not be. Yes, if all libraries must be run in the same mould. It contains 53,000 volumes, many of them the source books of our historians, and these are housed in a building which grew but was never built. The walls and rooms, bearing the impress and scars of conflicting impulses, have that vitality which can come to stone and mortar only after centuries of contact with

humanity. The alcoved reading room simply eludes reproduction as does any living form. The books it would be sacrilege to range in an iron stack. Let those who are in good standing with their ancestors lie to Manchester and, passing the portals of Chetham College, commune with the past as they may in few other places, while those who tolerate only present-day, bought-in-the-shop life can content themselves with the library of Owens College, with its 60,000 books marshaled on the decimal system according to Dewey.

I would give Englishmen the credit of getting more out of their libraries than we do. There is more good literature produced each year in England than in America. Given the ability to write, the raw material of literature—the so-called source-books—in sufficient supply and a courteous librarian and the process of book-making, if it may be given no higher title, will go on merrily. The literary product is but slightly dependent on library machinery so carefully elaborated in the United States these past twenty-five years. The literary producer cares naught for this mechanism. He wants books and plenty of them. Englishmen acknowledge that their library methods are antiquated and tell us that American methods are worth copying, but they have not copied them. English college libraries have been serving literary workers for centuries to the satisfaction of some and the discontent of others, as is the meed of most human efforts.

Our way is to spend fortunes classifying, cataloging and parading books before possible readers. The English librarian has hoarded books, knows his treasures and willingly produces them on call. It must be remembered that he who uses a library much—uses it as his work place—knows the formed literature of his subject and expects to pore untiringly over raw material in the shape of pamphlets and manuscripts. He wants a quiet corner—which he will regard as his own—and, in acknowledgment of his cleverness, unlimited privileges—which he will abuse without heed. After all, libraries vary in character as the needs they serve are different. American librarians have had as a main purpose to make libraries attractive to toddling readers of whatever age and to induce these toddlers to take some book for

home reading. Whatever the undertaking the ultimate object is success. We are trying to reach the library goal charting our course according to the many red, blue and green rules which have been formulated at the conferences national, state and city. Our cousins across the water, as is their national habit, use neither chart nor compass but make voyages as successful as ours.

But enough of appreciation! English public libraries have their vulnerable points. Let us compare them in this feature and that with ours, show the flaws and regain our American complacency. What are known as "children's rooms" in the United States have in England their counterpart in "boys' rooms;" though this would be a misnomer for the few to which girls are also admitted. These rooms are not open all day, but only in the evening; while the practice with us is rather the contrary. In England the boys' rooms are comfortable places where the young people may spend their evenings after a day of work. The American children's rooms are miniature libraries planned to catch school children. By giving the children a corner in which they may feel at home, the reading habit, which has its merits, is encouraged and, what is more important, the children become familiarized with library methods and come to know how to avail themselves of libraries as they may need them in after-life.

In the English boys' rooms books are given out at a counter and these are read in the room under the watchful eye of a man in charge. None of these books are allowed to circulate, nor can the young folks handle and look through the books and make their choice accordingly. Boys and girls are as apt as not, under these circumstances, to ask for books containing pictures or for bound volumes of illustrated papers. We all indulge the primitive elements of our natures in occasional picture-reading, but, with the little concentration required, this may degenerate into dawdling, and in America there is a tendency to discourage this. It was matter of little surprise to be told in the first boys' room which I visited — where little more was called for than the illustrated papers — that the boys became restless (no girls were admitted) and that it was frequently necessary to remove the more unruly ones.

The branch libraries of England impressed

me as newspaper reading rooms with circulating library attachments. The newspaper rooms are, as with us, monopolized by men, though generally there are smaller adjoining rooms for women — a concession to the gentle sex seldom made in American libraries. The population of England being homogeneous, the demand is solely for English newspapers. The large foreign element in every American community necessitates a liberal supply of German, French and Italian papers. The prominence of the news room in England is ascribed to the necessity of appealing to many rate-payers who, not being book readers, would otherwise take little interest in the libraries. Popular gambling in England takes the form of betting on horses, and as the papers publish betting odds the news rooms are patronized by those wishing to see the sporting columns. So serious is this evil that in some towns the library boards have ordered the blacking out of the betting columns, which leaves the papers looking as if they had passed through the hands of Russian censors.

In a typical English library the readers are on one side of a counter, the librarians are on the other and the books are behind the librarians, and there is very little intercourse between the public and the attendants except as order slips for books are presented. Englishmen are said to resent assistance proffered by the librarians. It is true that American readers do sometimes resent proffered help; but if in England an attendant were to approach a reader apparently in difficulty and ask what he was seeking, the Englishman, I was assured, would be apt to answer that it was none of the librarian's business and would persist in this attitude despite the exercise of the utmost tact on the part of the attendant.

The number of books reserved for reference use in English libraries often exceeds the number of those available for home use. The reference use, the use for serious study, seems to receive first consideration. These reference collections are sometimes housed in separate buildings and they are to be found, with few exceptions, only in the main library. In the branches the books are almost wholly for home use. In England first a copy of a suitable book is purchased for the reference collection, and then, if thought best, a second copy is purchased for circulation. With

us it has too often been the custom to give first thought to the books for home use, that the circulation figures might be larger.

It is common enough to find the public library but one part of a larger institution, the other elements being collections or museums of the fine arts and industrial arts and in connection with these classes and for the public at large courses of lectures. There are lecture rooms in some of the newer libraries of the United States, but these have not been used to the same extent as on the other side of the water.

I visited England as a librarian and, as opportunity offered, I saw the public libraries in the cities I visited. It is easy to criticise English public libraries, to compare them feature by feature with ours, and find them lacking. That kind of criticism of the work of others is always easy. I saw intelligent men and women laboring to give their fellow-beings the benefits of public libraries and the product of that labor is not what we have produced on this side of the water. If there is any weakness of mental fiber in the librarians of England I failed to discover it. They impressed me as being fully as capable as American librarians.

It has been supposed that steamships and railways were reducing the whole world to a monotonous uniformity physically and intellectually; so it was the more matter of surprise to find the English developing their libraries in a way so different from what is considered the best with us, and yet accomplishing so much good. There are greater differences in race characteristics than I had supposed, while the educational demands may be quite different in the two countries.

The habit of self-laudation may exist in England, doubtless it does; but for generations, even centuries, the English press has teemed with articles which when read by foreigners would give the impression that the best English thought contemplated the complete wreckage of Great Britain as constantly impending. Englishmen have been telling one another that English supremacy in manufactures was threatened on account of the superior training of the workmen of other countries. If I read the signs aright, the result has been that in the past ten or twenty years a revolution has taken place in the educational methods of Great Britain, and to this revolution the public libraries and their librarians have contributed materially.

THE WORK OF THE SMALL PUBLIC LIBRARY.*

BY ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, *Chief of Circulation Department, New York Public Library.*

We cannot too often remind ourselves of the fact that a circulating library is a distributing agency, and as such has points in common with other such agencies. The whole progress of civilization is dependent on distribution—the bringing to the individual of the thing he wants or needs. The library's activities are, therefore, in the same class with commerce, and the tendency of modern changes in the library is to make the analogy closer and closer. To recognize this fact is by no means to degrade library work. All workers fall into the two great classes of producers and distributors. Civilization can get along without neither; we must have the farmer to grow the wheat and the railway to

market it; we must have the author to write the book and the publisher and the bookseller and the librarian to place it in the hands of those who can use it. The librarian is not a producer; he takes the product of other people's brains and distributes it; and his problem is how to do this most effectively.

Do not misunderstand me. There have been some recent protests against treating the library as a commercial instead of an educational institution. The free library is not a commercial institution, but it is an agency for distributing something, and there are also hundreds of other agencies for distributing other things. The objects and the methods of distribution are various, but certain laws apply to all kinds of distribution. Hence we may learn a good deal about library work by ex-

* Read at Irvington Institute of New York Library Club, May 27, 1903.

aming to see what it has in common with other kinds of distribution and in what respect it differs from them.

Now, the prime factors in any kind of distribution are: 1, the products to be distributed; 2, the persons to whom they are to be distributed; 3, the distributors and methods of distribution. I know no better way of laying the basis of an efficient and successful distribution than the brief study, in order, of these three factors.

First let us consider the things that we are to distribute, namely, books. And at the outset let us remember that although these things are apparently material, as much so as butter or hats, they are much more than this. They are the vehicles for conveying ideas, so that a library is a concern for the dissemination of ideas. This brings it in line with another great intellectual and moral distributing agency—the school. In the school the distributor is more often a producer than in the library, especially in the universities, where the discoverer of new facts or laws himself imparts them to his students. Yet the school is essentially a distributing rather than a producing agency. In the school, however, the means of distribution are not limited, while in the library they are pretty strictly confined to the printed book. I know that there are some people who believe that the library is growing out of such restrictions, and that its mission is to be the distribution of ideas through any and all mediums—the spoken word, in lectures; the pictures, in exhibitions of art; the museum specimen; and so on. We should welcome all these as adjuncts to our own business, and when we have mastered that business thoroughly perhaps we may take them up each on its own account. Those who love books, however, will want to see the distribution of books always at the head of the library's activities.

And it may be kept there, provided we make everything else in the library serve as guide-posts to the printed records on the shelves. A picture bulletin, for instance, may be both beautiful and useful, but it should never be an end in itself. It is the bait, if we may so speak, for the list of books that accompanies it. The pictures excite the interest of a child who sees them and he wants to know more about them. The list tells him where he can find out, and the result is in-

creased use of the library. In like manner if you have a lecture course, or a loan exhibition in your library, see that it is made a means of stimulating interest in your books.

I have said that in distribution we bring to the individual what he wants or what he needs. That sounds a little tautological, but it is not. A man often wants whiskey when he doesn't need it at all, and conversely a boy sometimes needs a whipping—but he doesn't want it. So with the reading public. They often want fiction of a class that they do not need, and have no longing for books that would really benefit them. Here we may note a difference between the free library and all merely commercial systems of distribution. As the purpose of the latter is to make money, wants are regarded rather than needs. But even with a store there are limitations. If any one wants an injurious article—for instance, a poison or an explosive—the law steps in to prohibit or regulate. And even outside the limits of such regulation, the personal sense of responsibility to the community that governs the actions of an honest merchant will prevent his attempting to satisfy certain wants that he believes would better remain unsatisfied. So, too, certain books are without the pale of the law—they would be confiscated and the librarian would be punished if they were circulated. Beyond these there are many books that we do not circulate simply from our sense of general responsibility to the community.

The difference between our work and that of the merchant in this regard lies chiefly in the more extended scope left for our own judgment. No librarian thinks of circulating illegal literature; his only care is to exclude such of the allowable books as he believes should not, for any reason, be placed on his shelves. Here, sometimes, popularity and usefulness part company. The librarian may yield entirely too much to the wants—the demands—of the community and neglect its needs. His aim should be to bring the wants and the needs into harmony so far as possible, to make his people want what will do them good. This might be dubbed "the whole duty of a librarian." Few, I am afraid, attain to the full measure of it, and too many fail even to realize its desirability. Of course if you can bring the full force of a reader's conscience to bear on his reading—if you

can make him feel that it is his duty to read some good book that strikes him as stupid, you may make him stick to it to the bitter end, but such perfunctory reading does little good. The pleasure one gets in reading is a sign of benefits received. Even the smile of the boy who reads George Ade is a sign that the book is furnishing him with needed recreation. The pleasure experienced, we will say, in reading Shakespeare is of course of a far higher type; yet I venture to say that if that pleasure is absent, the benefit is absent too. Nine-tenths of the distaste felt for good standard books by the average reader is the result of the mistaken efforts of some one to force him to read one of these books by something in the nature of an appeal to duty. There is no moral obligation to read Shakespeare if you do not like it, and if a friend persuades you of such an obligation you are apt to end by rightly concluding that he is wrong. But with this conclusion comes an unfortunate distaste for good literature; a conviction that standard works are all dull, and that the only kind of pleasure to be had from reading is the most superficial kind. The moral for librarians is: cultivate in your readers a taste for good literature; get them into the frame of mind and the grade of culture where they like Shakespeare and then turn them loose. No injunctions will be necessary; they will not cease to read until they have devoured the uttermost sentence.

But how shall this taste be cultivated? I wish I knew. I wish I could give you a formula for causing the flower of literary appreciation to unfold. The rule is different in every case. First and foremost there must be something to cultivate. You cannot go out into the desert with a watering-pot and raise strawberries or asparagus. But you can take a poor little spindling plant and dig about it and fertilize it until it waxes into a robust tree whose branches are laden with big, juicy ideas. If you are skilful enough to find out what intellectual germs there are in your reader's mind you can cultivate them little by little, but if you throw Shakespeare and Milton at the heads of all alike they will be likely to fall on barren ground. The golden rule for making your library both attractive and useful (the two things go hand in hand) is to adapt your books to those aptitudes of your readers that need and will bear cultivation.

This means that in selecting books for your library you must not disregard the demands and requests of your readers. It also means that you must have the acuteness to detect what they ought to request. It may be, for instance, that near your library is the home of some great industry employing large numbers of intelligent mechanics who would gain both enjoyment and benefit by reading some of the technical literature bearing on their work. Only it has never occurred to them to think that this literature, much of it perhaps expensive or inaccessible, can be obtained at the public library. It is your business to get it, if you can, and to let them know that you have it and that they are welcome to read it.

Remember, too, that he gives twice who gives quickly. Much of the ephemeral literature of the day, which is purchased for recreative purposes, is rightly and properly read for curiosity. People like to read the latest book and talk to each other about it. We are all embryo critics. This desire to read the last thing out, just because it is the last, has had anathemas piled on it until it ought to be crushed, but it is still lively. I confess I have it myself and I cannot blame my neighbor if he has it too. Unless we are wholly to reject the recreative use of the library or to accept it with a mental reservation that the public shall enjoy itself according to a prescribed formula or not at all—we shall have to buy some of these books. I am afraid that otherwise some future historian of literature may say of us in parody of Macaulay's celebrated epigram on the Puritans and bear-baiting, that the twentieth-century librarian condemned the twentieth-century novel, not because it did harm to the library, but because it gave pleasure to the reader. Now, if we are going to buy this ephemeral literature, we must get it quickly or not at all. The latest novel must go on your shelves hot from the presses, or stay off. And this is true of much other literature that is not ephemeral but that depends for its effect on its timeliness. It will certainly lose readers if it is not on your shelves promptly, and if it deserves readers, as much of it does, the net result is a loss to the community.

How in general shall the small library select its books? Such selection must be based on three considerations, namely, the needs of the community, the determination of what books will

satisfy them, and the library's financial condition. These are not, in practice, to be considered apart. Thus, the first necessity of the library may be books on music and a secondary need may be books on water supply. It may so happen, however, that a complete and up-to-date work on the latter subject, we will say, has just been issued at a moderate price, while the works on music most needed are expensive. The result would be quite different from that reached by a consideration of the first point alone. Again, we will take the case of a library with a book appropriation large enough to buy practically all that it wants in current literature. This fact drops point third out of consideration entirely and modifies both the others considerably. If the library wants both music and hydraulics and has money enough for only one, we must consider carefully which can best be spared; but if the funds are at hand for both, all this thought is not needed. In like manner, even if there are funds for both, but only for one or two books on each subject, we must select the books we need most, which we need not do if we have money to buy all we want on both subjects. In short, the work of selecting is more difficult, as has been said, with a few books than with many, but the consolation must be that the result is better. The temptation, when one has plenty of money, is to let selection go by the board altogether and to garner in wheat and tares alike, trusting to the public to do the sorting.

So we come next to the question of readers. How shall we get them? What kind do we want, and how shall we reach that kind? In commercial systems of distribution the merchant gets customers in two ways: by giving good quality and good measure and by advertising. Some kind of advertising is generally essential. Even if your community is a very small one it is right that you should occasionally remind it of your existence and of what you have to offer. Legitimate advertising is simply informing people where they can obtain something that they are likely to want. The address of your library should be in your railway station; in the schools; in the drug store. Your latest accessions should be announced in the local papers and bulletined in the same places. When you have an item about your library that would interest the reader send it yourself to the paper. There is nothing un-

dignified about this. Do not forget that you are in charge of certain articles that the public needs and desires and that it is your business to let the public know it. The new-comer to your town cannot know intuitively that your library is at such and such an address; the old resident who likes to read Howells cannot ascertain by telepathy that you have just received the last volume by his favorite author. You may even send a special card of information to a reader who you know will be glad to get it.

One would think that if there was anything distinctive about our systems of distribution, commercial or otherwise, it was the great degree to which we advertise and the money that we spend in so doing. But with it all, this feature in its misdirected energy and lack of method is the weak point of the whole system. Much of the money spent in advertising is devoted to attempts to get people to buy what they do not want. Any one knows that when he desires a very special or definite thing it is often impossible to find it, though it may be next door. In our library work, so far as readers are concerned, our weak points are two: first, failure to make known our presence and our work to all who might use the library; second, failure to hold our readers. These things are both serious. We ourselves see so much of libraries that we find it difficult to understand how large a proportion of any community is ignorant of them and their work. In large cities, of course, this is more likely to be the case than in small towns. Yet if you will compare the number of names on your registration list with the population you serve, even making allowance for the fact that each book withdrawn may be read by several persons, and deducting young children who cannot read, you will be surprised at the discrepancy. There are many people who do not know of your library's existence or who do not realize what it means. Your first duty is to find some way of giving them the information and of seeing that they shall not forget it.

Regarding the second failure, you may get some idea of that if you will compare the growth of your registration list with that of your circulation. The circulation never grows as fast as the membership. It may even be stationary or decreasing while new users are coming in daily. The fact is, of

course, that former users are all the time dropping off. Why do they drop off? It is your business to find out and to keep them if you can. The librarian in a small community has a great advantage in this respect, for she can know her constituency personally and keep track of them individually.

But the personal relations of the librarian and her assistants with the public belong as much in the third section of our subject as in the second. The importance of them cannot be exaggerated. I am not sure that I should not prefer a sunny-faced, pleasant-voiced, intelligent, good-tempered assistant in a tumble-down building with a lot of second-hand, badly arranged books, rather than the latest Carnegie library stocked with literary treasures if these had to be dispensed by a haughty young lady with monosyllabic answers and a fatigued expression. I know of no more exasperating duty than that of continually meeting a library public — and I know of no pleasanter one. For the public is just you and me and some other people, and like you and me it is various in its moods. The mood of the public in a library is often but a reflection of that of the librarian. The golden rule here is direct personal contact; and don't forget the last syllable — tact. Don't force your services or your advice on people that neither wish nor require them, but don't forget that you may have pleasant, intellectual intercourse without offering either aid or advice. When an aged man who knows more of literature than you ever dreamed of in your wildest visions wants "The Dolly dialogues," don't try to get him to take "Marius the Epicurean" instead. But if you get into the habit of talking with him

it may make the library seem pleasant and homelike to him, and, besides, he may tell you something that you do not know — that is a not remote and certainly fascinating possibility.

I need not say that no library can be useful or attractive unless it is properly arranged and cataloged, and unless it has a simple and effective charging system; and unless the public is admitted directly to the shelves and allowed to handle and select the books. But I do need to say — because some of us are apt to forget it — that these things are not ends in themselves, but means to an end, namely, the bringing together of the man and the book, the distribution of ideas. Do not assume that for some occult reason you must classify and catalog your library precisely like some large public library with which you are familiar. Do not assume, if you are a trained cataloger, that there is any virtue, for instance, in subject cards. One subject heading that brings the book in touch with your public outweighs a dozen that do not affect it. To bring together man and book break all rules and strike out in all kinds of new directions. Your particular locality and your particular public may have special requirements that are present nowhere else. Rules were made for the aid and comfort of the public, not for their confusion and hindrance. Methods are the librarian's tools, not his handcuffs and shackles. To do anything well we must do it with method and system; but these, like a growing boy's clothes, need frequent renewal. If your library has stopped growing and has reached senility, then the same suit will fit it year after year, but premature old age is not a good goal to strive for.

THEOLOGICAL LITERATURE IN LIBRARIES.

By S. G. AYRES, Librarian of Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J.

FOR some years a gradual change has been taking place in the educational world. Educational means and methods have raised the general average of intelligence. In order to meet the demands of this new and broader intelligence authors have rushed into print and publishers have hurried their work, so that literally their presses have been busy night and day. In this change men have noted with surprise the changed relations of out-put. Fiction is the most profitable publication, if successful, of any kind of books. Consequently publishers publish more of that kind of literature in the hope that they have found, as they term it, "a winner." It is a well known fact that several strong American publishing houses have been saved from bankruptcy by securing the manuscript of a successful novel. In two cases at least the manuscripts went begging. One publisher's reader after another reported in the negative. But the success of the books proved how futile is much criticism, or else how great the lack of taste on the part of the public. The Harper Brothers used to publish a book by Charles Reade, the novelist, entitled "Bible characters." At the time of its publication Rev. Dr. George R. Crooks was a reader for the firm. The manuscript was submitted to him and he gave it his enthusiastic approval. Anyone who has read the book will concur. It was written after the novelist was eighty years old and after he had become a Christian. It was the work of an artist, but to this day few know of the book. It was not properly advertised and so has passed out of sight. This may be the history of many another book of equal or greater value. The statistics of the total out-put of books in 1891 were 4665 volumes—theology 528; fiction 1105; law 348; education 355; 1902, total 5485—theology 599; fiction 838; law 475; education 431. These figures show some improvement in classes other than fiction. Theology is keeping pace in production, but not in sales.

The sale of theological literature has been largely affected by the rapid growth of sci-

ence. Any scientific book ten years of age is said to be out of date. Newer discoveries have been made and therefore have modified the known facts. A work not including these facts would be incomplete. Many people not understanding the difference between the science of theology and the natural sciences think that the same principle applies to theology. They are mistaken in some measure. This statement does not imply that there is not progress in the science of theology but that the sale of many works should be longer than in the sciences. For instance, the best work ever published on the divinity of Jesus Christ from the Trinitarian standpoint is the Bampton lecture of 1866, written by Canon Liddon and first published thirty-seven years ago. It is a recognized fact that no later book has approached it. The same is true of Smeaton's "Doctrine of the Holy Spirit." This unfortunately is now reported as out of print. These are both from the realm of systematic theology, and there are many others. A firm is sometime slow to understand that it has published a standard. Take an example in exegetical theology. Some years ago Bishop Lightfoot published commentaries on certain of Paul's Epistles. Yet to-day their scholarship is unsurpassed and nothing has been written to take their place. Books have been written that cover the same ground, but so far none so well. Quite recently we have had three books, that cover the ground with equal thoroughness, on other New Testament books: Mayor on James; Swete on Mark and Plummer on Luke. It will be hard to surpass them.

We do not wish to be misunderstood. There is very much that is ephemeral in theological literature. But there is on the other hand the production of standards unsurpassed and it may be unsurpassable. Some publishers publish a new book and retire a better one on the same line. That may be the reason for the fact that Smeaton and Lightfoot are hard to secure.

The small sale of theological works is in

many cases the fault of the publishers. I would arraign the publishers for the following reasons:

(1) Works in theology are not always well printed, and are generally not tastefully bound. Compare for instance most of the works on theology with those on music or fiction.

(2) The price of theological books is in many cases prohibitive and perhaps exorbitant. All professional books seem to me to be higher in price than they should be.

(3) Advertising. If the same science were used in advertising theology that is displayed in advertising fiction, the sales, I believe, would be doubled. The fact is there is not the persistent advertising of theology that there should be. Publishers have not awakened to the fact that there are over 100,000 clergymen in the United States and that all of them, or many of them may be induced to buy really valuable books. They have not realized that there are besides many trained or partially trained Christian workers, who would be glad to know of the best books, and to buy them. Advertising for one year or one month is not advertising. I would like to see a live publisher with a really good book in theology apply the same methods that he uses in selling fiction; the advance notices, the advance sales, and the other paraphernalia now so well understood.

(4) The smallness of editions may prevent a larger sale. It is said that theological books rarely exceed 10,000 copies sold and that a book that reaches 5000 sold is considered a very successful one. One of the greatest successes of recent days is Matheson's "Studies in the portrait of Christ." It is said that 9000 copies were sold in the first six weeks after publication in Edinburgh.

Next after the source of publication, we come to the reservoir—the libraries. Recently one hundred reply cards were sent to libraries of educational institutions. These were sent to the libraries containing upwards of 20,000 volumes only. Among other queries the total number of volumes and the number of volumes in theology were asked for. Sixty-two libraries replied representing a gross total of 4,297,251 volumes. Of these sixty-two libraries, fourteen failed to answer the question definitely, as to the number of volumes in

theology. Some stated that they had a little; and others did not keep statistics of the various portions of the library in that way. But the forty-eight reported 433,488 volumes. Taking out four theological libraries, there were 307,988 volumes reported as theological out of 4,089,885 volumes; showing that seven and one half per cent. of theology is to be found in these libraries. A careful study of these statistics reveals the fact that the largest proportion of theology is to be found in the older libraries, and hence leads us to conclude that much of it is old theology. The young men studying for the ministry in universities have very little opportunity to become acquainted with the best works in the department of literature with which they will have most to do. This I think is also a fair deduction from the same statistics. The libraries of the educational institutions are largely reference libraries and besides very few keep statistics of circulation, so that we have no basis for actual use of works in this class.

At the same time one hundred reply cards were sent to public libraries propounding the same questions. The first ninety were sent to libraries of more than 25,000 volumes. The last ten were sent to libraries below that size to find what they have of works in theology for purposes of comparison with the larger libraries. Sixty-seven libraries responded to the queries, reporting a total of 3,770,174 volumes. Sixty-two of these libraries report 130,444 volumes in theology which is about 4% of the volumes in these libraries. The proportion varies greatly in the different libraries, some large ones having a very small percentage and a few small libraries a larger proportionate percentage. We tried to get a report of the circulation in the educational institutions and failed, but the public libraries keep such statistics more carefully. Sixty-four libraries report a circulation of 13,312,949 volumes. Ten libraries report the circulation of theology as nothing at all, or else that no data was kept by class subjects; fifty-six report only a trifle over .011% of the circulation to be theology, or 95,306 volumes out of a total of 8,558,282 volumes. These statistics imply two things. Either lack of proper material to circulate or lack of effort

on the part of the librarian to circulate this class, or, perhaps a third reason may be prevalent in some cases—the nearness of a theological library. The character of the community has much to do with this also. This is true of some of the cases noted.

Now why do not the educational institution and public libraries have a larger percentage of theology, and why do they not circulate more? I shall not attempt to answer beyond this. As far as I know, no attempt has been made to circulate theology systematically. If on the display desk or shelves are placed now and then a volume of theology, I think the librarian would be pleased with the result. Another method that may be used successfully is to send a card to all the clergymen and other known theological readers when new books arrive. Some libraries report that they are spending a fair proportion of their income on this subject, but many are not.

The question naturally arises—where do ministers get their books? They are obliged largely to depend on their own private libraries. These contain anywhere from two hundred to three thousand volumes, generally below one thousand. Limited means forbid a larger library. Four things prevent a large expenditure: small salaries; the debt incurred in securing an education; in other cases insurance, the only means they have of providing for their families; still others, including a very large proportion, are leaders in the benevolence of their congregations. In some instances all four causes unite to prevent book expenditure. Many live in towns where there are no public libraries, so that they cannot be served there. Here is a chance for the librarian to help by getting the names of the clergymen in suburban towns and inviting them to come in and read. I doubt not that this is done in some cases. Nearly all will be grateful, though some will be too busy to leave their work. There is a lending library for clergymen in London that aids in supplying lacking volumes to the minister. On payment of a small sum and cost of transportation, books may be had for one month. The

branch idea of the General Theological Library of Boston is a step in the same direction. As far back as 1894 a similar line of work was proposed in connection with our own work, and has to a limited extent been carried out since. A lack of funds has prevented the full realization of our plans. But we hope and work for the day when any clergyman of any denomination in the United States may be able to draw books from our library if he so desires. The Booklovers' Library is aiding many ministers to solve the question of the source of supply.

Another plan to aid in the use of a class of works of theology is to have in the reference room, a Sunday-school teachers' corner. One hundred dollars will buy the foundation of this library and the expenditure of ten dollars per year will easily replenish it. I will gladly send lists to any one desiring them. After you have your books the next thing to do is to get the names of all teachers in the Sunday-schools. Send them cards telling of the new venture and inviting them to come and also give the invitation to members of adult classes. In the *Sunday-school Journal and Bible Study Magazine* will be found every week references to the lesson, that may aid in locating material in the general library.

A plan aiding in circulating another class of theology is that used by the librarian of Somerville, Mass., in placing on his shelves the books required by the local Woman's Foreign Missionary Society for their study course. The gratitude of the society was great. They sent a note to the *Zion's Herald* of Boston to that effect. Probably others have done this same work, too.

In return for what you do for the minister, he will do something for you. I think it would be an easy matter to get every pastor of a city or town to preach, on a stated Sabbath, on the benefit of good reading. He can help much in encouraging his young people to read and will do so if the matter is called to his attention. In conclusion—we cannot take anything for granted in library work. We can circulate theology if we try. Am I right?

MAKING A LIBRARY USEFUL.*

We will assume that your library is in running order and open to the public and that it has been well advertised. Now you face the question, "How can I make this library most useful to the people for whom it is meant?"

This is distinctively the librarian's problem, and his most serious one. Generally speaking, the library you are to handle will be a fixed quantity, at least for a time. You may be able, in the course of years, to modify your collection, and to make it grow after your own mind. But at first you will presumably have to use the material as you find it. Under these conditions, in a small community, it is the librarian who makes the library useful.

It is a comparatively easy matter to attract patronage to a public library. It is a far more difficult thing to satisfy and hold it, especially with a collection that is incomplete and often provokingly limited. The head of such a library must supply by his own energy and resourcefulness the demands of his patrons. This does not mean that we are to manufacture literature out of empty shelves or provide knowledge through the exercise of the imagination. It does mean that a somewhat inadequate collection can be made very useful by one who knows the books thoroughly, who is in love with his calling, and ready to expend himself upon it. This last is indispensable. I know of no occupation in which personality counts for more than it does in that of librarianship in a small library. The power and the will to do hard things cheerfully is an essential of success in the work. It is frequently necessary to give all of one's energies and time to meet the demand of the day or the moment. And that demand may appear in itself a most trifling one. Right here is a crucial point. Make it the rule of your life as a librarian to regard as important every demand made upon you, no matter what it may be. Perhaps a group of men, Americans of very recent coinage, will come to you bringing for solution an obstinate controversy over the question of the exact title by which the youngest son of the youngest son of the ducal house of Argyle is known. Your first feeling will be that that question is not of sufficient importance to any American citizen to claim one moment of your time for its investigation. Do not yield to that feeling. Respond to the request with energy and with sympathy. This, I know, "is a counsel of perfection," and you may ask how you can give any interest to the pursuit of useless knowledge. Nevertheless you must achieve just that difficult state of mind if you would bring your library to the highest level of usefulness.

Let us find our starting point. The library in a small town, remote from large libraries

and certain other advantages of city life, should fill an otherwise vacant place in the life of the community as a whole. Your ambition will be to make it the center of culture. To do this you must begin by popularizing it. Everybody in the place should be made to feel that the library belongs to him; that it is there for his own personal use whenever he chooses to claim his privilege. The average man will never learn this except as he comes to the consciousness of it through personal contact with the librarian. And he will as readily learn it by your helping him to some bit of out-of-the-way information as he would if engaged in doing serious research work, provided that your assistance is given heartily. But if you work perfunctorily, in an indifferent spirit, he will learn that too. The only way to avoid perfunctory work is to enter resolutely into the spirit of the inquirer, whether he asks for the latest romantic novel or for a description of the properties of radium.

This is not an impossible ideal. The pursuit of it involves the unceasing exercise of the best that is in one. It involves the patient steadfastness of purpose which grows out of real faith in one's methods, and does not become discouraged while waiting for results. And it needs, also, the indispensable tonic of a never-failing sense of humor, the humor which enjoys the "guips and cranks" of the minds of one's neighbors even when they put us to some inconvenience.

All this devotion may seem comparatively unfruitful for a long time. You may go on indefinitely without once catching sight of your goal except in visions and dreams, which, by the way, are as precious to struggling librarians as they were to the ancient prophets. But if you persist with determined cheerfulness, the time will come when you will gradually realize that the people about you look upon your library as a bureau of information and upon you as its general secretary. Then you will have not only your reward but your opportunity. You can begin to do really constructive work, to exercise some influence upon your constituency. Hitherto you will have done very largely what they have wanted you to do. Thereafter you will be able to induce them to do some of the things you would like to have them do. It is unavailing to aim at this until your patrons are convinced that you are sincerely anxious to serve them. When they are once sure of this you will encounter the new difficulty of being looked upon as a counselor by so many people that you will feel like asking if they really do consider you omnipotent. You will be in the best position, too, for finding out what your people really need; and when you know their needs and have won their hearts your library will be useful in the best way.

ELIZA WITHAM,
Astral Branch, Brooklyn Public Library.

*Read at Long Island Library Club institute meeting, Freeport, May 23, 1903.

THE ENGLISH SITUATION AS TO NET BOOKS—PRACTICAL SUGGES- TIONS BY LIBRARIANS.

From *The Library*, July, 1903.

News comes that the publishers, who, if report speaks true, were perfectly willing to allow discount off net books to schools and colleges a short time ago, have declined to receive a deputation from the Library Association to discuss the question of a similar allowance to libraries. The precise terms of the reply received by the Library Association have not been made public, but we understand that it was politely curt and emphatically stated that the matter had been settled some time ago. It is, therefore, clear that if the question is to be seriously considered by the Publishers' Association, the claim will have to be based upon the hard business facts of pounds, shillings and pence. We think it can be done.

In a paper read before the Library Association by Mr. W. E. Doubleday a few months ago, the case for the removal of the net terms regulation was based upon the fact that public libraries were, in effect, wholesale purchasers. At all events, they were customers in a large way; their credit was good; and their orders in many cases made all the difference between profit and loss, especially upon publications of a costly nature. He argued that when the existing arrangement was made, very few works were published at net prices, whereas now practically everything except fiction was issued at net, so that libraries, with their restricted incomes, were heavily hit. Surely such a fact, which is quite incontrovertible, afforded enough basis for a reconsideration of the case—at all events, one would have thought that, as the request for reconsideration was backed by a large number of town councils and other library authorities, it would have received adequate treatment. But no! The publishers refused that courtesy. The majority of the Booksellers' Association will no doubt rejoice, while the authors—the third party to the agreement—make no sign, though in the last number of *The Library* one of the writers of the "Notes on books and work" pointed out how injuriously their interests were affected.* In order to convince the publishers as to the necessity for redressing the injury inflicted upon us sentiment will have to be cast to the winds, and it will behoove library authorities to consider whether it is possible to give practical effect to their dissatisfaction in such a way as to make it felt.

If this is to be done it cannot be achieved by isolated effort. There is not the slightest doubt that the financial support received from public libraries is a factor which publishers can ill afford to ignore; it is only

their sense of our individual impotence which has induced them to include us in the net restriction. By a fairly general effort, and without inflicting any hardship upon our respective libraries, we may hope to make library influence felt; and it is the object of this paper to suggest how this may be done.

In the first place, it should be noted that some firms publish more net books than others. The librarian's first step should be to blacklist these, and whenever possible to give preference, when ordering, to firms which press less hard upon us. It would be ungracious to specify names, but we may mention that two firms publishing almost everything, including fiction occasionally, at net, were within the writer's knowledge boycotted to the extent of £200 last year alone. This was, of course, not done by way of retaliation; it was simply an expression of practical dissent. Since publishers have been able to push the net system to its present extent solely by public support, and since libraries form so important a factor in this support, it is clear that if this particular patronage were withdrawn we should find more books coming out without the word net after the price. Such a plan could very well be adopted to a partial extent, and if it were carried out with anything like common consent, not only in Great Britain but in America—where the matter presses as closely as here—and in the colonies, the abstentions would inevitably make their mark and some benefit would accrue.

As a second line of defensive attack may be suggested, the propriety of purchasing at second-hand every net book wanted for the library, so far as such a course can be managed; particularly in the case of the firms chiefly offending. This spells delay, but it is also economy, and may be advantageous in the end. At the libraries with which the writers are connected it has hitherto been the rule never to purchase from reviewers; now they are steadily cultivating their acquaintance and advise others to do the same.

Another method, and one that has no drawbacks, is to divert a larger portion of book money than heretofore to subscriptions for the publications of learned societies. The volumes of such societies as the Early English Text Society, the Hakluyt Society, the Royal Geographical Society, "Archæologia," the publications of the Paleontological Society, and—for London—those of the London Typographical Society, are all well worth purchasing, and others will suggest themselves to such as read this article.

Akin to this step is the ordering of books published by public presses, such, for example, as the Clarendon Press and the Cambridge University Press. The imprint of either may usually be taken as a guarantee of good work, and the field covered by them is immense. Mr. Doubleday, in his paper, deprecated taking action against publishers in case of their refusal to redress the library grievance; but

* See *L. J.*, June, p. 294.

such qualms are assuredly unnecessary. Librarians would fail in their duty did they not endeavor by all legitimate means to impress upon publishers the desirability of reconsidering their obnoxious and injurious decision. Facts are stubborn things, and it is only through them that we can hope for better conditions. It remains, therefore, for librarians to press home the facts of the case in some such ways as have been suggested above. If they sit down supinely and tamely submit to whatever terms are imposed upon them, the anticipations of the publishers will be realized and their action justified by its success. . . .

In an altogether different way libraries may give pause to the publishers; they may purchase fewer new books. Startling as such a proposition may appear at first sight, it will be admitted that it is increasingly difficult to lay out a large sum to advantage year by year upon new publications. Really good books are always coming out, but the grain is so overloaded with chaff that the difficulty is what to avoid. If, in anxiety to keep pace with the times the older authors have been somewhat neglected, now is the time to repair such gaps, and in many cases no modern editions are equal to those published years ago.

Then, too, well-stocked libraries may possibly find it good policy to allocate a portion of their book money upon machinery for getting the books into the hands of readers. An opportunity would thus be made for fully cataloging the contents of the libraries. Old fittings could be altered and renewed, new fittings could be acquired, and the library building itself might, in some cases, look all the better for an overhauling which otherwise might not have been possible.

By such courses will it be possible for librarians to make their influence felt, provided that some common action be taken. Librarians have no grudge against publishers or against net books, and it is not suggested that, as a body, publishers are inimical to libraries. But in their desire to improve the condition of the booksellers they have inflicted a grievous injury upon libraries, and have shown that they are willing for it to continue. The booksellers on their part appear to have expected a pretty general distribution of library orders, but in few instances have their expectations been realized. Rightly, to our thinking, libraries with few exceptions have stood by the firms which have evinced sympathy with them. In any case, small firms have not the same facilities for prompt supply as larger ones; and in London it will be little consolation for other booksellers to reflect that such a big firm as Messrs. Simpkin is pocketing the extra profit in which they hoped to share.

The foregoing reflections and suggestions are offered in no spirit of vindictiveness. We are aware that anything like a general boy-

cott of net books is impossible; our regret is that any attempt of the kind needs to be considered. We are fully conscious, too, that not many libraries will be able to put into operation all of the suggested expedients, but if each librarian does his share, remembering that "mony a little makes a mickle" some impressions may be made. If this is done, the effect will be felt by authors as well as publishers, and between the fires we may reckon upon seeing some diminution in the flow of net books. We asked for special treatment, and were refused; but we shall not appreciate the relief any the less if the public share it with us. It only remains for every librarian to do his duty in this direction.

SOME IMPRESSIONS OF A VISIT TO AMERICAN LIBRARIES.

THE editor of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL has asked me to give an account of some of my impressions from a visit I paid to America in the fall of 1902 with the object of studying the public libraries of the United States and the work they do in connection with the public schools. That the reader may better understand my purpose in paying that visit I may refer to the account of Danish libraries, which I gave to the New York State Library Association at the Lake Placid meeting in September, 1902 (LIBRARY JOURNAL, Oct., 1902, p. 888).

In 1900 I published a book: "Folkebog-samlinger, deres historie og indretning" (People's libraries, their history and organization), which was reviewed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for November, 1900. In this book I gave a short description of American libraries and their work, the material for which and for many other parts of the book had been gathered from American books and through correspondence with American librarians, who helped me with great kindness. While engaged in this work I felt more and more how much I might learn by coming over to America, and when the Danish state sent me on this mission I can say without exaggeration that one of my most earnest wishes was fulfilled. The results of my studies were even better than I had expected.

American libraries are indeed *the people's* libraries; they work to help all sorts and conditions of men, the adults and the children, the students and the workingmen. They work far better than the popular libraries on the European continent, not only because their collection of books are larger and their reading rooms much better, but in the first place because the American librarian knows how to make his library and himself—I should say her library and herself—as useful to the people as possible. I shall never forget my visits to the information-desks in American libraries. I think that many of my American colleagues are bound to be what Mr. Dooley

calls a "bicyclopedia" and an "answers to questions column."

The libraries also do what they can to make their books as easy of access as possible. The "open access" gives the reader the best opportunity of learning how to handle books and to make his choice among them.

The branch system distributes the books over all parts of the large cities. I remember travelling by the elevated and by train with the object of visiting the branches in New York City. I remember a sunny autumn day when I drove in a runabout to the city branches round Brooklyn, and another splendid day when I travelled up and down in Pittsburgh from one branch to another. But the libraries go still farther in distributing their books among the readers. The travelling library systems as I saw them in New York and Wisconsin, the home libraries which I saw in New York City and Pittsburgh, transmit the books to smaller and smaller circles.

The libraries provide reading for all nationalities. I have seen in Buffalo large collections of German and Polish books, in Chicago of Danish and Swedish books. In Stoughton, Wis., a light-haired Norwegian young lady handed out Danish and Norwegian books to light-haired children, whose parents were Norwegians. I saw in the Webster Free Circulating Library, New York, Bohemians making use of a collection of Czechic books.

In America there is the best opportunity for studying libraries of every size. I have seen small libraries out in the country—Stoughton, Wis.; Oak Park, near Chicago; Amherst, North Amherst, Sunderland, Mass., quite near to each other. I have seen large libraries often very splendidly built and splendidly decorated. An evening in the Library of Congress, when the reading halls and corridors are shining in the electric light; a Sunday afternoon in Boston Public Library, when every seat is occupied and streams of visitors admire the beautiful pictures on the walls; a busy day in Chicago Public Library; the splendid reading-room in the State Historical Library, Madison, Wis., crowded with students, men and women, are sights never to be forgotten.

I had often a strong feeling—a feeling which might awaken in me some envy if I thought of the poor condition of the libraries in my own country—that the public library in America is the favorite child of the people, here and there perhaps a little spoiled. And again and again I was told how deeply American libraries are indebted to the splendid munificence of Mr. Carnegie.

I admired the elaborate co-operation between libraries and museums in many places—in the Buffalo Public Library with the Historical Society and Natural History Museum; in Springfield with the Natural History Museum and splendid art museum; in Pittsburgh, where I saw an excellent loan collection of pictures; and in many other places.

But of all the remarkable things which I saw in American libraries nothing impressed me so much as the work for the children. The librarians have clearly understood that by taking the children by the hand they not only (as the Danish proverb has it) take the mother by the heart, but that they build up a splendid future for the libraries. I remember in Buffalo small black-eyed Polish children absorbed in the study of Polish picture-books. I remember in Pittsburgh white children and colored children reading at the same table. I remember how the children, when the school hours were over, came in streams to the libraries in Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, in Worcester, in Medford, and other towns near Boston, and felt quite at home there. I admired the splendid co-operation between schools and libraries in Buffalo, in Madison, Wis., in several towns near Boston, and in the Webster Free Circulating Library in New York.

The foreigner cannot fail to admire the excellent work done by women librarians in America. Besides their enthusiasm, they bring to their work many qualifications which enable them to make the library a bright and beautiful home. I had this feeling of something homelike when I visited the Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, the James Prendergast Library, Jamestown, N. Y., and many others.

What I have stated here will be to my American colleagues truisms not worth saying. I had better, then, say something which they could not as well say themselves. If one would have a thorough feeling of the fact that work for the people's enlightenment links the workers together and makes them feel as members of a brotherhood (and sisterhood—as an American librarian corrected me at the Paris Exhibition in 1900) go to America and live among American librarians. And they will take you into their companionship with the kindest readiness. This I felt very strongly whenever I attended library meetings, as the meeting at Lake Placid, with its animated discussions, serious dances, and splendid sports. I felt it when discussing library matters with some of the best among the American librarians and with the editors of the library periodicals. I felt it when I got valuable advice from the state library commissions in Wisconsin and Massachusetts and at the New York State Library; when I sat as a pupil at the library school in Albany or visited the library schools in Pratt Institute Library and in Pittsburgh; and when I listened to a lecture on library implements at the Library Bureau in Boston and Chicago and admired what American practical sense has invented for saving time and brain work.

I am deeply indebted to American librarians for good and kind help. But I also feel how fortunate I am in having for my future work friends and helpers in the Promised Land of the public libraries.

ANDR. SCH. STEENBERG.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE
LIBRARIANS: SIXTH ANNUAL
MEETING, NIAGARA FALLS,
N. Y., JUNE 24, 25, 1903.*

A LARGER number of people than was anticipated gathered in Room 2 of the Cataract House on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 24, to attend the opening session of the sixth annual meeting of the National Association of State Librarians, held in connection with the meeting of the American Library Association, at Niagara Falls. Mr. Arthur H. Chase, state librarian of New Hampshire, as president, called the meeting to order. After pleasant words of greeting and a brief retrospection he expressed himself as looking into the future with confidence, although lamenting the seeming indifference of some of the southern and western librarians toward the Association and recommending serious consideration of a plan that would win their co-operation.

Mr. Chase then introduced Mr. C. B. Galbreath, state librarian of Ohio, who read the first paper of the conference on "The progress of the state library: some difficulties in the way." In this paper it was pointed out that the problem of lifting the state library to a higher plane involved three important factors: the situation, the library staff, and the librarian. Mr. Galbreath first considered the librarian, his educational qualifications and library training. However desirable a college degree and special library training, these alone will not remove difficulties and insure success. The prime qualification is sincere, thorough, religious devotion to library work. He starts well, whatever he may be or may have been, who resolves immediately after his election that henceforward he will be, first of all and above all, librarian; that he will bring to the new field the highest service of his powers, native and acquired; that the institution committed to his care shall hold honorable rank with others of its kind. While he will continue to manifest an interest in public affairs, he will cease to be a politician, and remove one of the greatest obstacles to the progress of the state library. There are assistants and subordinates whose fitness and attitude are to be considered. Nothing less than a thorough common school education should be required, and especially such knowledge of the English language as would enable the applicant to compose sentences, spell correctly and punctuate accurately. Not only should the assistant have a general idea of the mission of the state library, but her special training should have reference to that mission. A staff is defined as a supporting body. The term, as an index of what we have a right to expect, is appropriate and significant. Sham librarians, incompetent assistants and rebel-

lious subordinates are not the only elements which impede our progress. All of these are, perhaps, only the results of what we have included as the third factor under the comprehensive title *the situation*. The important element is the law governing the library. The worst possible one is that which places the power of appointment of the employees of the library in the state legislature. The librarian in such a place may use his influence with the legislature that elected him to abolish the library law and substitute for it something better. The management of the library by a board appointed by the governor, with special reference to fitness for the position has, all things considered, most to recommend it. This board should consist of from three to five members who should serve for such period as shall enable the governor to appoint one member in his term of office. The source of authority in the state library should be "one and inseparable." In this broad field of related endeavor there should be the smallest possible opportunity for a clashing of authority.

In the discussion that followed, the administration of the state library, including appointment of librarian, vacations, hours and influence of inert state employees over library assistants, were topics touched upon as related to the subject in question.

Mr. Johnson Brigham, state librarian of Iowa, continued the program with a discussion of "The state librarian and the public." "My subject," he said, "presupposes a public possessed of rights which state librarians are bound to respect. It is wise on our part to formulate such a bill of rights as the public might with reason formulate for itself 'and do it fast.' The state librarian and his assistants should be democratic in their treatment of the public; the librarian is the servant of a lenient master, the Public, but he cannot afford to, and should not want to, presume upon his master's leniency. There are two notable exceptions to this rule of democracy in a state library—the chosen representative of the people, in the legislative, executive and judicial departments of government, and the educators." Mr. Brigham next discussed the advisability of loaning books freely to the general public, and raised the question whether or not it is best to insist on a deposit as security against loss. He thought it would be helpful to have duplicates carefully saved and loaned when possible, and advised buying duplicate sets of some of the leading periodicals. In short, he would loan freely everything that could be spared, especially if within easy recall by telephone or telegraph. The state library is regarded by the public as a bureau of information, and so far as his knowledge and superior facilities for knowing will permit, the librarian should do his best to satisfy this popular expectation. Any movement tending to develop the library spirit and the wise

* The JOURNAL is indebted for this report to Miss M. M. Oakley, secretary of the National Association of State Librarians.

use of libraries should command the state librarian's sympathy and active support.

Miss Adelaide R. Hasse, of the New York Public Library, then read what was perhaps the most pertinent and timely paper of the session, on "The function of the National Association of State Librarians," in which she suggested a very important and useful line of work, a summary of which follows:

There are now in the United States four regularly organized bodies more or less actively engaged in formulating the subject of documents, namely, the Public Archives Commission, the Public Documents Committee of the A. L. A., the Foreign Documents Committee of the A. L. A., and the National Association of State Librarians. The bodies named have a national interest. Existing bodies for the investigation of local records include state historical societies, state record commissions, and, in some states, notably Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina, the state department has been charged with the supervision of the reprinting of official records and manuscripts. None of the bodies named has as legitimate a connection with the subject of public documents as has the National Association of State Librarians. None has contributed so little to our knowledge of it. As individuals, we have each, of course, our official duties and routine. To your speaker it hardly seems necessary or worthy that consideration of these duties should absorb the entire attention of the association. As an association, there is before this body a distinct line of work which, if prosecuted patiently and carefully, will result in establishing the association as the exponent of local American administrative literature. It is ground peculiarly fallow. It is ground peculiarly the province of this association. Will you, its legitimate proprietors, undertake the tillage? In the field of practical bibliography, bibliography bordering in nature on creative work, there has rarely been an opportunity such as offers itself to the members of this association. Co-operation in the work should be sought with the two document committees of the A. L. A. and the Public Archives Commission. Finally, all these reflections resolve themselves into two points, namely, that this association adopt such measures as will result in establishing it as the exponent of American official administrative literature by means of the prosecution of practical bibliography; and that this object can best be accomplished by an alliance of those forces at present engaged in the custody and study of public documents.

The responsive attitude of all who took part in the discussion showed that Miss Hasse's suggestions had indeed fallen upon fallow ground, and resulted in the appointment of a committee, upon motion of Mr. Brigham, consisting of Miss Hasse, Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Goddard, whose duty it should be to map out a systematic plan of bibliographical

work along the lines suggested for the association, and send such plan in printed form to each state librarian.

Mr. H. C. Buchanan, state librarian of New Jersey, presented the perennially interesting subject "The merger of the N. A. S. L. into the A. L. A." At the meeting of 1902 Mr. Buchanan, together with Mr. Godard, of Connecticut, and Mr. Hartswick, of Pennsylvania, were appointed a committee to consider the subject, and he voiced the sentiment of the committee when he said it was their unanimous opinion that the N. A. S. L. remain a separate organization. He reviewed the history of the efforts made to bring state librarians together, beginning with the call sent out by Mr. Wallis, state librarian of California, in 1887. The first conference was held in St. Louis in 1889, with 29 libraries represented, though there were but 11 state librarians present. It was evident at the very beginning of its existence that attractions in the larger body interfered with the deliberations of the new section, so in 1891, when the A. L. A. was held in California, it was voted to call the meeting two days in advance. The California meeting was a failure, and the experience was repeated the following year at Lakewood, N. J. A final effort was made at the Chicago conference in 1893, but the attendance was so small that it was finally decided that further effort was useless. A Law Section was organized by the law librarians and state librarians, but was no more successful than its predecessor, and in 1898 a special notice was sent out urging the state librarians to attend the Chautauqua conference of that year. A State Library Section was organized, and there seems to have been a fair attendance. In November of the same year a conference of state librarians was held in Washington, D. C., the first one totally distinct from any other meeting of librarians ever held. Ten states were represented, and it was the unanimous opinion that there was need of a permanent organization of state librarians in part at least, separate and distinct from any other library organization. Here the National Association of State Librarians was formed, which has since held meetings at Indianapolis, Harrisburg, Waukesha and Magnolia. Almost without exception every member of the N. A. S. L. is also a member of the A. L. A., and the connection could be no closer if the former were swallowed up entirely in the larger body; and while by such a merger there would be absolutely no gain to the A. L. A., either in membership or in interest, there would be a serious loss to the state librarians. The main argument in favor of merger seems to be a desire that the state librarians shall meet at the same time and place as the A. L. A. This they are doing, and doubtless will continue to do for obvious reasons. "So far as may be gathered from the expressions of sentiment made by the members of our organization, there is

not the slightest desire to appear as even a weak rival of the great body. We have our own problems to solve, but we are all loyal members of the A. L. A."

A report of the committee on the exchange and distribution of state documents was then read by Mr. R. P. Falkner, chairman. A circular letter was sent by the committee to the governors of the different states in regard to the exchange service of state publications, but as no answers were forthcoming the committee regretted not being able to make their work more effective. The full report, together with an appendix containing a statement in regard to the distribution and exchange of state documents in several states, now in preparation, will be published later in the Proceedings.

It was voted to accept the report and continue the committee. The consensus of opinion seemed to be that the exchange of documents should be in charge of the state library.

The committee to which was referred Mr. Ferrell's letter of June 12, 1902, addressed to the association, concerning the distribution of government documents within the states, reported, through its chairman, Mr. Galbreath, as being in favor of the proposed arrangement, and recommended that each state library furnish to the Superintendent of Documents lists of duplicate government documents in their respective libraries, and, as far as possible in other libraries of the state, and that they co-operate with the Superintendent of Documents in the transfer of such documents.

The session scheduled for Wednesday evening was postponed until Friday morning to allow those interested to attend an important meeting of the Catalog Section. The second meeting, therefore, followed the program listed for the third session, and was opened by Roland P. Falkner, Chief of the Division of Documents, Library of Congress, who talked briefly on "The duty of official libraries in collecting municipal documents."

Mr. Falkner prefaced his remarks by saying that the Public Library of Detroit had duplicate Michigan documents to dispose of, information concerning which could be procured from Mr. H. M. Utley, librarian. He thought it ought to be the duty of some body or organization to collect municipal documents as the Library of Congress could not do it. The official library of each state should, in his opinion, be required by law to make such a collection. He would like to know how this is done in different states, especially in the south.

Mr. Chase said that there was a law in New Hampshire compelling municipal officers to send reports to the state library.

"Is it advisable to buy magazines in sets, bound or unbound, or obtain them by subscription?" was the question asked by Mr. L. D. Carver, state librarian of Maine, as the subject of his paper. After a historical survey

of periodical literature, Mr. Carver spoke as follows: "Coming now to the real topic assigned me for discussion, I can only say that the earlier sets of magazines should be purchased in binding, if possible, since unbound sets on sale invariably lack title pages and indexes and frequently are found defective by reason of a mangled or missing leaf.

"The process of purchasing by subscription, the magazines of the present day, as issued monthly, involves a great outlay of care and labor and is very costly. This method has its corresponding compensations in that one may be able, by vigilance and patience, to procure perfect copies with title pages and index, if happily these adjuncts are to be procured at all of the publisher. Besides, it is not always safe to wait until a volume is complete before purchasing. Under the publishers' rules whereby the price of periodicals is increased each month elapsing after the issue of a number, not much money can be saved in waiting to the end of a year or series of years before purchasing. The argument in favor of securing the current magazines and reviews by subscription is conclusive in my mind, since it is only in this way that one can secure these publications for a certainty, with full indexes and title-pages to each volume. Completeness in all the details in any section of our libraries is a requisite beyond the price of extra money and labor involved in obtaining this desired result. Each state librarian has the question before him and must act in accordance with the peculiar circumstances pertaining to his own library. We can all agree, however, that the main object and purpose is to secure as many of these publications as possible for daily use in the reference department of our libraries."

The discussion called out by Mr. Carver's paper ended in the adoption of a resolution offered by Mr. Montgomery "that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to consider what is best for this association to do in the matter of title-pages and indexes to periodicals and make report at the meeting to-morrow morning." The committee was appointed by the chair as follows: Mr. Montgomery of Pennsylvania, Miss Thayer of Illinois, and Mr. Goddard of Vermont.

A very practical subject was next presented by Miss Anna G. Hubbard, assistant state librarian of Indiana, who gave a detailed description of the "Cataloging and preservation of maps in Indiana State Library," a synopsis of which follows:

The points to be considered in devising a plan were economy of space, time, cleanliness, expense and permanency of preservation, where lack of room and money prevented specially made cases. It was decided there should be no rolled or folded maps, on account of the tendency of a highly glazed surface to crack and peel, and the defacement that follows a crease. The single maps on hand were assorted into two lots; those considered of real value,

the others of less importance, because of subject, presentation of subject or condition of preservation. Of the first lot each map was dissected into sections not less than 6 x 8 inches, not more than 9 x 11 inches. These were mounted on cloth by the binder and folded, and in this dissected and folded state pasted to one side of a dark green muslin covered back, like the cover of a book. This "book-map" was plated and labelled as any ordinary book. Pamphlet boxes were made which corresponded to the other pamphlet boxes used in the library, into which were placed the "book-maps."

The classification allowed these "book-maps" to be arranged so that one pamphlet box could contain more than one map, usually from four to six. The second lot were grouped in classes so far as possible, such as harbor maps, canal maps, etc. These groups and maps containing several parts were bound flat in covers something in the style of the U. S. Geological Survey atlas folios, using stencil board covers. The size of these folios was estimated according to the space in which they were to be kept. If necessary a fold was given at the end or sides, the fold being protected by a wide strip of cloth. On the upper left-hand corner of all folio maps a book label was pasted for the call number and below that a typewritten label containing the subject. The pamphlet boxes were placed on the shelves and marked in the same way. By this method maps do not take up any more room than books, are not much more difficult to consult, and they are as clean as any books which are not used constantly. The average "book-map" finished cost eighty-five cents each, ranging in size from 2 x 3 feet to 6 x 10 feet, the folios fifteen cents each, and the pamphlet boxes twenty cents each. All maps are accessioned and classified according to the decimal system, using the history number to the fullest extent.

In cataloging, subjects are assigned the same as to books, with the addition of the word "Maps" and date. For the author, the name of the compiler or publisher or department which issues it. The title, scale, size, plain or colored, form in which preserved, place and date, notes and sometimes contents are all considered necessary information to place in catalog card.

It was not claimed that this disposition of maps is ideal, but so far it has been found satisfactory and covers the points noted in the beginning, giving a usable, workable section of maps.

One objection offered to method advocated by Miss Hubbard was that of dissecting old and valuable maps. Another was the unsightliness of muslin streaks in photographic reproductions. Miss Hasse said the American Topographical Society dissected its maps, and Mr. Falkner explained how maps are cared for in the Library of Congress.

Mr. T. L. Montgomery, state librarian of

Pennsylvania, chose for his subject "Notes of a neophyte," explaining that it might mean "newly entered upon some state." As Mr. Montgomery had been in office just three weeks when asked to write a paper for the meeting of the N. A. S. L. he modestly declined, but upon being urged chose the above alliterate title which he said "might apply to a few notes on the management of public documents or to the number of hours to be allowed the messenger to obtain the mail." His paper was largely a description of the condition in which he found the Pennsylvania State Library, what he has accomplished in his three months of service, concluding with his hopes for the future, which are summed up as follows:

"It may be that next year I shall have something of importance to tell you concerning the state library, but for the present I must content myself with the statement that the institution must have as its ideal the maintenance of a practically complete law collection, an historical section second to none in the country, and the housing of the records of the state in a fire-proof building, properly cataloged and classified, and skilfully repaired when broken or damaged. It must see that a commission is provided with a means to furnish as many travelling libraries as may be needed in the rural districts of Pennsylvania, and it must provide a librarian who is always willing and anxious to go to any part of the state in the interests of the library movement, and who confidently expects Pennsylvania to become a leader rather than a follower in this work. With a governor in the executive mansion who has so intensely at heart the history and educational interests of the state, we are assured of at least four years of progress in this direction."

Mrs. Jessie P. Weber, librarian of the Illinois Historical Society, discussed "The state library and historical societies," and suggested plans for mutual helpfulness.

The postponed session was held on Friday, June 26, at 9.30 a.m., and was opened by a report from the Committee on Uniformity in Preparation of Session Laws, presented by Robert H. Whitten, chairman. Accompanying the report was a circular showing the action of the National Association of State Librarians and of the conference of state boards of commissioners for promoting uniform legislation, explaining the recommendations and giving a tabulation of present practices in each state. The committee suggested that it would be helpful if state librarians would print the recommendation in their regular report. It was moved and carried that the report be accepted, the committee continued and the circular mentioned be printed and circulated.

Miss Mary E. Ahern, editor of *Public Libraries*, read the first paper of the morning on "The place of state libraries among the

public libraries of the state." She said in part:

"There has never been a time when the work of the state library was carried on with so much definite purpose and with such faithful and efficient effort as at the present time, and while unfortunately this cannot be said of all state libraries, it is true of a larger number than ever before in the history of the institution. The present organization of state libraries has elements of strength which ought to live and grow until the time when the whole subject will be systematized and there will be a homogeneous body working each for and with the other with a definite purpose in view. When President Harper, of the University of Chicago, endorsed the plan of relating library effort and said a private committee was at work on a plan to make the Congressional Library a national library in connection with the Bureau of Education, the day of allied library work did not seem so far away. When the time comes there will be a national library in Washington which will be the head reservoir with illimitable sources of help and initiation too large to enumerate. There will be a perfect network of lines leading to every place where help is needed; perhaps direct, perhaps through some of the main channels, the first section of which leads to and through the state library. The state library ought to be of right the head and front of every library effort affecting general progress of the work throughout the state. The idea which is responsible for its being regarded as an institution, organized and maintained solely for the use of the state officials and the preservation of state publications is as much antiquated, expensive, inefficient and obsolete as the idea of carrying loads by means of human strength. The state librarian should bear the same relation to the other librarians of the state as the state superintendent of public instruction does to the other school superintendents of the state. The state library should stand at the head of the other libraries of the state to receive, preserve and distribute information, statistics and all other official data outside the province of other libraries. This will gather into it, or into close relation with it, the library commissions, library schools, the travelling library, and every other effort supported by the state. Expert organizers will be on the staff of the state library service and they will go here and there, as called for by new libraries, or old ones reviving. Printed catalog cards of the national library will be kept for the information and convenience of all. Bibliographies of the contents of the state library will be issued from time to time and sent to the libraries of the state. The state documents will be systematically received and intelligently preserved and distributed. The libraries will be classed and ranked as they are dependent on or independent of the help to be given by the state institution, to which all

of them will report, covering certain lines along which information should be available in some one reliable place. The close relation of the state library with the other libraries will influence the extent and character of the books on the shelves of both. The state library will be, as it were, the court of last resort for the students of the whole state, thus saving funds for the smaller libraries. The state libraries will have a collection of slides illustrative of various lines of civic improvement. These will be at the disposal of the other links in the library chain, going back and forth to help in the work of building up an intelligent use of all aids to better living. The state library in its true relation to the other libraries of the state is to be the monitor who directs, the missionary who leads, the governor who points out, the reservoir that prevents duplication and waste of effort, that stands ready and willing to reinforce every legitimate effort that aims to make two good books read where one was read before."

Miss Ahern's remarks touched a responsive chord and were heartily approved, one librarian wishing the paper might be printed and placed in the hands of every state official.

Mr. Melvil Dewey, state librarian of New York, was to have been the next speaker, his subject being "State libraries as storehouses for the other libraries of the state," but as he did not appear, Miss Flora B. Roberts, of the Michigan State Library, gave the association some statistics compiled from the answers she received to 45 questions sent to 35 state libraries.

No reports were received from Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Oregon, Texas, West Virginia; the states not written to are Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, North and South Dakota, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Pennsylvania's reply came too late to be included. The largest salary received by a state librarian is \$5,000, the lowest \$900, except in cases where the office is merely nominal or *ex officio*. The average is \$1750. In regard to the assistant and their salaries New York is far in the lead, reporting 57 persons, with an average salary of \$706.14. California reports 12 assistants at \$1800 and \$1200; Michigan 12 at \$1000; Ohio comes next with 11 assistants, but here, and in fact in all the other states, there seems to be a more or less graded salary list. There was no way of telling by the report whether the pay-roll is controlled by law or left to the discretion of the librarian. In New York the library activities are centered in the State Library; in Wisconsin there is the State Library, the State Historical Society Library and the Commission. In the other states we have various combinations. Because of these differences it is difficult to make comparisons or present concise facts of the work. Six states report a division into departments; the others, usually law and general. Colorado, Indiana, Ohio,

Rhode Island and Wisconsin report the law department as under separate administration. In the number of volumes, New York and California again lead with 482,000 and 122,000 respectively. The smallest reported numbers between six and seven thousand. With 8 exceptions the libraries are reported as in the capitol building. Does the library fail in any form of usefulness if located in a separate building? There are 20 state historical societies reported, with 13 libraries, and again the question is faced of the best plan of organization which shall mean the greatest economy of energy and money. Seventeen libraries are reported as reference only; 6 seem to have adopted some system of loaning books in the state; 6 libraries report no board; the remaining 20 report all sorts and conditions of boards. Library appropriations run from \$500 to \$134,000. Four states fail to report in regard to classification; the rest, with the exception of 2, are classified by the decimal system. Five of the 25 reporting states are without card catalogs; 3 of these report a printed catalog; 9 of the card catalogs were begun within the last five years. The principal accessions are Law, American history, Genealogy and Economics. Fifteen report as buying no fiction; one buys only fiction by authors of that state; another buys only standard collections for reference, and the rest buy but little. Open shelves seem to be in general favor.

Reports from 19 state library commissions show the smallest appropriation for commission work is \$250, the largest \$68,000. New York employs 33 people in this work. Wisconsin 10; Iowa 4; but most of the rest only one, and in some state there are no paid workers. Nineteen states report travelling libraries; in 2 states they are under the direction of women's clubs; in 4 states the work is in charge of the state library; in Illinois it is under the care of the secretary of Farmers' Institutes. The commissions are in charge of the others. In regard to previous experience or training in state libraries, most of the positions have been held by the same persons for years. In perhaps 4 of the state libraries there are trained assistants. In comparing the answers to the question "What is the special function of the state library?" Miss Roberts concludes, "And so only in that our field is the state instead of a city, would it seem that our work should differ from the public library."

Miss Roberts' statistics were found so interesting that it was voted to ask her to continue the work and make a report at next meeting with the suggestion that she send out circulars asking librarians what questions they would like to have answered.

Mr. Montgomery thought the reports of historical societies should be included as part of the activity of state library work. Mr. Falkner thought the association badly named, should be National Association of State Libraries, including department of archives and

history in southern states. Mr. Henry thought the name broad enough to include everybody who wanted to join the association.

Mr. George S. Godard, state librarian of Connecticut, in his paper on "The relation of the state librarian to the public documents of his own state," showed how the librarian, by persistence and tactful effort, could bring about many helpful reforms. Taking it for granted that the state library should possess as complete a file as possible of state documents and also of the reports of the several cities, boroughs and townships, he disclosed several ingenious plans tried by himself for arousing local civic pride and fostering a healthful spirit of emulation, securing thereby donations for the library. Mr. Godard thought the librarian should be responsible for the promptness and completeness of the shipments of documents of his own state to his several exchanges and depositories. He might assist officials in preparing reports by showing them the collection in the library and calling their attention to the lack of uniformity in size, thickness, bindings, lettering, position, kind and color of labels, quality of paper and ink and intended arrangement, lack of index, etc., in short showing them how it should not be done. He can render lasting service in connection with the work in the bindery, helping to retard the growing tendency to issue departmental publications in bindings like Joseph's coat of many colors and to place them in bindings which may be more or less attractive to-day but correspondingly faded and shaky in a short time. He thinks the occasional appearance of legal publications in good canvas, duck or cloth bindings augurs well and fears we have been too exacting and expected too much from the poor sheep. In the arrangement of the combined sets of state documents the librarian ought to be able to render important service. If he will use his best endeavors towards securing a classified, systematic arrangement of the documents of his state, bound in plain but substantial bindings of convenient size, not forgetting to have each volume bear in plain letters the name of his state, the date, covered by the reports therein, together with the names of the several documents, he will certainly gain the personal thanks of his brother and sister librarians, and merit the thanks of the state. Mr. Godard said, further:

"I believe it is the duty of every state librarian to publish in his report a list of the official publications of his state issued since his last report, and if possible to compile and publish from time to time, in bulletin form, if necessary, the bibliographies of the several departments of his state."

Mr. E. M. Goddard, assistant state librarian of Vermont, then addressed the meeting, taking for his theme "A clearing house for state publications." He spoke of the difficulty experienced in obtaining lacking volumes of state documents and reports from the various

states and urged upon the association the importance of devising some method whereby librarians might be aided in this important work. It was shown that at present it is very hard to ascertain where missing volumes of documents are to be obtained; after application has been made to the librarian of a state for a certain document or report and it is found that it cannot be supplied by the state library of the state by which it was published, the question immediately comes, Where can it be had? It was suggested that if some sort of a check list of duplicate copies of documents and reports could be provided by each state library, great assistance would be given to the work of completing broken sets. Attention was called to the work in this line that has been done by the Documents Division of the Library of Congress so far as the United States Government documents were concerned, and it was suggested that lists similar to those sent out by that division could be prepared for the proposed work, and in order to come to some uniform understanding of the matter the president was requested to appoint a committee of three members that should take the subject under consideration and report upon the same at the next meeting of the association.

Mr. Henty moved that a committee be appointed to consider the question of a clearing house for state publications and report at the next conference. The motion was carried and the president appointed Mr. Goddard of Vermont, Miss Hubbard of Indiana, and Mr. Whitten of New York.

Mr. Montgomery, chairman, presented the report from the committee on periodicals:

Whereas This association is much interested in the matter of bringing before the publishers of periodicals the importance of the proper form of title-pages and indexes, and the adoption of some uniformity in the issuing of the same, be it

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to consult with the committee of the A. L. A. to report at the next convention recommendations to be submitted to the publishers.

The report was accepted and committee continued.

The president, Mr. Chase, spoke of the advisability of making, before adjournment, some provision for financing the association, as there were bills awaiting liquidation, and the future expense of printing the Proceedings to be met in September. After a consideration of ways and means, Mr. Goddard of Vermont moved that a committee of three be appointed to plan a reorganization and financing of the association with full power to act. The motion was carried, and the president appointed Mr. Galbreath of Ohio, Miss Thayer of Illinois, and Mr. Henry of Indiana to serve as such committee.

Miss Thayer then extended a cordial invitation to the association to hold the next meeting in Springfield, Ill. It was voted to allow the president and secretary to make the final decision in regard to the time and place of next meeting.

The nominating committee, consisting of Mr. Carver of Maine, Mr. Henry of Indiana, and Mr. Buchanan of New Jersey, reported the following-named persons to act as officers for the ensuing year: President, John-son Brigham, of Iowa; 1st vice-president, Edward M. Goddard of Vermont; 2d vice-president, Mrs. Jessie P. Weber of Illinois; secretary, Miss Minnie M. Oakley of Wisconsin. After electing this ticket the meeting was adjourned.

A LIBRARY FOR LIBRARIANS.

THOMAS GREENWOOD, whose recently published biography of Edward Edwards should be well known, has made a very interesting gift to the Manchester Public Library, England, which he has designated as a "library for librarians." Mr. Greenwood is an enthusiastic advocate of public libraries, and this gift to his native district was made in recognition of his indebtedness to benefits derived in early life from the Campfield Library. His bequest consists of books in many languages relating to bibliography, the history and administration of libraries, the annals of printing and bookbinding in various countries, with practical treatises on those arts; works on palæography and similar subjects. His aim has been to gather together copies of all the books that might be called a librarian's bibliographical or professional tools. These books are to be available for use under the ordinary conditions at the reference department of the Manchester Library, but Mr. Greenwood desires that they shall also be at the service of librarians and others engaged in library administration throughout his country, and to this end regulations will very likely be framed, under which the volumes may be lent to librarians at a distance. This seems to be the first time that such a collection was formed with such an object. A sum of money for investment accompanied this gift, the interest of which will be sufficient to keep up the collection and defray all incidental expenses. Mr. Greenwood now resides at Frith Knowl, Elstree, Herts. His interest in the American library movement is only second to that which he feels for the cause in England, and he is at present engaged in studying the parochial library idea of Dr. Bray, as identified with our colonial history.

VICTOR HUGO PALTSITS.

NOTES AND FIGURES ABOUT THE CIRCULATION OF NOVELS IN THE NEWARK FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

DURING 15 days, June 4 to 20, inclusive, there were lent from this library, including the delivery stations, but not including the children's department, 11,508 books. Of these, 8118, or 70 per cent., were novels, which were taken by 4181 different persons. These 11,508 books were taken by certain of the library's 21,000 cardholders or registered borrowers. These registered borrowers include all those who took out cards at the library between Jan. 10, 1900, and June 4, 1903. That is, 21,000 cards have been issued in the last 36 months, and are now in force. Of the 4181 different borrowers who presented themselves at the library during the 15 days mentioned and borrowed 8118 novels only 2000 came from the ranks of those borrowers whose cards were issued to them prior to March 30, 1902. The other 2000 came from the ranks of borrowers who secured their cards within the 12 months following March 30, 1902. Or, to put the matter in another form, judging from this inquiry, we may conclude that of any hundred persons who come to the library and take out borrowers' cards only about 40 per cent. still continue to use their cards as often as once in 15 days after a lapse of 18 months. This conclusion is somewhat confirmed by other inquiries I have made in this direction. It indicates that about two-thirds of those who take cards out at a public library do not continue to use their cards save at rather long intervals after a year and a half.

The total number of novels which were borrowed during the 15 days was 8118. The total number of persons who borrowed these novels was 4181. Half of these 4000 took only one novel. The other half, or 2000 persons, took out 6000 different novels in 15 days; 1222 took out 2 novels each in that period. About 600 took out 3 novels each; 275, 4 novels each; 100 persons borrowed 500 different novels, or 5 each, in 15 days; 50 others took out 6 novels each; 22 took out 7 novels each; 3 persons took out 8; one took 9, and one 10.

The persistent novel borrower at the public library is not, then, by the showing of these figures, entitled to the name legion. Librarians generally have long been of the opinion that it is necessary for them to keep on hand a large supply of most of the recent popular fiction, without much regard to its quality and even at some loss of fullness as regards the library's list of books in other departments. They have thought it was necessary thus to stock their shelves with recent popular novels because they have supposed that the general public, the mass of their book borrowers, were all of one mind as to such books. They have been inclined to think that all their

cardholders wished the library to keep on hand a good supply of the latest novels. Our figures, based on an investigation of only 15 days, are, of course, not conclusive; but they point very strongly to the conclusion that out of the total number of persons who make use of the library to the extent of taking out cards a small per cent. are making frequent inquiry for recent novels or even for fiction at all.

As stated above, the Newark Free Public Library now has 21,000 cards in force in its adult department. This is not counting the cards in force held by children. In any 15 days, consequently, 21,000 different persons could take each one or more novels from the library. As a matter of fact, only 4181 called for novels in these 15 days, and half of this total called for a novel but once in that time. Of the novels lent, 8000 in all, 6000 were taken by 2000 different persons. This would indicate, as I have suggested above, that the cardholders of a library who are constantly asking for novels at that library's delivery desk, form only a comparatively small portion of the total number of that library's users.

J. C. DANA.

THE LIBRARY OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE COUNTY OF KINGS, BROOKLYN, N. Y.*

THE Library of the Medical Society of the County of Kings was founded in 1845, and for many years its growth was spasmodic and the books were housed in rented quarters in a public hall where the society held its meetings. In 1887 the society purchased its first home, an ordinary three story dwelling at No. 356 Bridge street, and here the library was installed until it outgrew its quarters and necessitated the erection of the present building, which was formally opened, May 19, 1900. The collection then numbered about 10,000 volumes, consisting mostly of unbound and imperfect files of periodicals. Prior to this time the society had not employed a trained librarian. The books were moved in before the building was completed, and were piled in a heap on the stack-room floor, unclassified and uncataloged.

Two problems presented themselves at this time. The first was merely technical—that of organization and the evolving of order out of chaos. The second was more difficult. The problem was how to build up a great reference library of expensive books and journals without finances with which to purchase them. The income of the society, after paying taxes, has been barely sufficient to cover the running expenses of the building, and no funds have been available for the purchase of books or for binding.

The first step, of course, was the proper

* Read before the Long Island Library Club, April 16, 1903.

classification and arrangement of the books upon the shelves. This was done before making any start either at cataloging or accessioning the books, in order that all the resources of the library might be immediately available for use. It took three months to sort and put these 10,000 books on the shelves, properly classified, since which time it always has been possible to give the reader at once, any periodical, book or pamphlet called for which the library contained, even though the majority of the books were neither cataloged nor accessioned.

In selecting a system of classification, the Dewey decimal system was found inadequate to meet the requirements of a special library, and a classification modelled on that of the New York Academy of Medicine was adopted and has met all requirements. This system is of interest perhaps to librarians of medical libraries only, and was published in full in the January, 1903, number of the *Medical Library and Historical Journal*. (See L. J., February, 1903, p. 89.)

The books are classified by subjects, each subject having a numerical section number. In each section the books are arranged on the shelves in strict alphabetical order by authors. The section number appears on the book-plate inside the volume and also on the catalog card. Call numbers are not used because there is not the slightest necessity for them when the books in each section are arranged alphabetically by authors.

Periodical files, irrespective of subjects, are subdivided by languages and in each language they are arranged in alphabetical order strictly by title.

The work of accessioning and cataloging was next taken up and is being carried on as rapidly as possible. Progress along these lines has necessarily been slow, due to the fact that up to a year ago the librarian was without an assistant for any part of the library work.

The typewriter is used for cataloging, both on account of the resulting economy of time and because an absolutely uniform and legible card catalog is obtained, no matter how many different catalogers are employed. A special machine is used which takes in cards of any thickness on a flat surface, thus obviating the bending of the card and the destroying of its elasticity which occurs when the standard card is rolled around the cylinder of the ordinary typewriter. By the use of carbon paper two copies of each card are struck off at the same impression. One of these cards is placed in the main author catalog and the other in a card shelf list which serves as a rough classed subject catalog.

An elaborate subject catalog is not attempted because there is available to every medical library a printed dictionary catalog of practically all medical literature, including the contents of periodicals as well as books and pamphlets, in the "Index catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Library" at Washington, the largest medical library in the world. Sup-

plementing this is a monthly publication, the *Index Medicus*, which gives a complete bibliography of each month's current medical literature. Rather than merely duplicate this work at a large expense, it has seemed better economy to spend the money for the purchase of books and periodicals necessary to bring the library up to the standard of this catalog. The author catalog answers the question how many of the references the library can supply.

In the last three years this library has grown from a collection of about 10,000 volumes to a medical library fourth in size and importance in the United States and containing to-day about 40,000 volumes and 25,000 pamphlets, primary copies; or about 60,000 volumes if duplicates are included. This growth has been accomplished with an expense to the society during the three years of only about \$500 for the purchase of books, binding, supplies, and all other sundries of administration. This sum, of course, does not include salaries or the maintenance of the building. From their individual libraries the doctors have donated volumes to the aggregate of several thousand. The libraries of deceased physicians have been presented and three large medical collections of 5000, 6000 and 2000 volumes respectively which have come into the market have been purchased by individual subscriptions and presented to the library.

The society's publication, the *Brooklyn Medical Journal*, has been worked up so that in exchanges and new books sent for review, it brings in annually over \$1000 worth of books and journals without cost to the society.

In our reading room we have nearly 600 current medical periodicals regularly on file.

In order to provide for the rapid growth of the library it has been necessary to erect two additional tiers of stacks during the last year and our stack room will now accommodate 100,000 volumes.

As previously stated, the society's income barely meets the expenses of the building and money is greatly needed for the purchase of books and for binding. To meet this need in part, an auxiliary medical library club has just been formed, with dues of \$10 yearly and this annual fund will be devoted exclusively to promote the growth of the library. The only endowment is the Zabriskie Memorial Library Fund of \$2000, the income of which is used for the purchase of books and periodicals the library is unable to secure from other sources. It should also be stated that the library, which is open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., is a free public medical library. Despite this fact, neither municipal nor state aid is received, and efforts to secure exemption from taxation have thus far been unavailing.* All the expenses are met by the annual dues of some 700 members of the society.

* Since this article was written a bill has passed the legislature and become a law, whereby the property of medical societies maintaining a public medical library, is hereafter exempt from taxation.

In closing, I would add a brief note about the medical libraries of this country. They now number about 50 of any importance and have an active and flourishing organization known as the Association of Medical Librarians, whose official organ, the *Medical Library and Historical Journal*, is edited and published from this building. An exchange is also maintained where the different members of the association send in their want and duplicate lists. Through this central bureau exchanges are effected between the different libraries scattered throughout the country.

ALBERT T. HUNTINGTON, Librarian.

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

MEETINGS of the Library Department of the National Educational Association were held in connection with the annual convention of that body in Boston, July 8 and 10.

The first session, held in the Second Church, was called to order by Dr. James H. Canfield, president of the department, at 10 o'clock on Wednesday, July 8. Hon. W. T. Harris, United States Commissioner of Education, was introduced and spoke a few words of greeting. Dr. Canfield, in his president's address, said the problem to be solved was how can we most surely hold the attention of scholars, which is something the libraries cannot do alone, but can do much when in conjunction with the teachers, who must unite as a solid front to bring about a harmonious, well-ordered condition at every point in the land. Some are fortunate in being both librarian and teacher at the same time, and in many cases there is a constant crossing and recrossing of the lines of action. The best books are in reality the best men and women as we see them at their best, and when students understand this they will understand that every library represents an increase in the population of the world in its largest, broadest form and meaning, and that it stands as the best friend of every child and every citizen.

"Some co-operative suggestions" were made by Alfred Bayliss, superintendent of public instruction of Springfield, Ill., who described methods of making public library books available in the schools, in use in Rockford and Galesburg, Ill.

Miss Electra C. Doren, of the Dayton (O.) Public Library, spoke on "Public library work for public schools." She said that the four main lines of public library work for public schools are the circulation of books to schools, special reference work, bibliographic aids and extra illustrative material. The "teacher's card," by which a number of books may be taken for school use and retained for periods of a month to a year is now a privilege conceded in every public library that pretends to co-operate with work of education. In many cities collections of duplicates, numbering

thousands of volumes, are kept for the special purpose of furnishing the schools with classroom libraries. Students' needs have called forth the reference librarian, have made necessary rooms for class use in the library and have brought about the system of "reserves" of circulating books where a whole class of students must use them at the same time. The various annotated lists for school use were noted, and other methods of co-operation, in exhibits and the use of illustrative material, were described. "An important means of bringing schools and libraries together is that of reciprocal training of teachers and librarians, such as projected, and now partly in operation in Cleveland and Dayton — and to be further developed at the new Carnegie Library School, Cleveland."

"The public library and the public school" was the subject of a paper by Charles B. Gilbert, of New York, who pointed out that the library should be systematically developed to carry on the work of public education where the schools leave off; and C. G. Leland, of New York, spoke on "The mission of the class library." He urged that there should be a library in each classroom of about 50 books, at an average cost of \$30 per library; supplemented by a small and carefully selected reference library for each building, at a cost, say, of \$100.

N. D. C. Hodges, of the Cincinnati Public Library, read a paper entitled "Is the public library a promptuary for the public schools?" He began by referring to the storehouses (horrea or promptuaria) in ancient Rome, in which were kept the supplies of corn and other materials belonging to the state. From these stores corn was delivered free, or at prices below the market value. It has been supposed that these corn doles affected injuriously the mental and moral fibre of the Roman common people. In a few cities public library funds have been used for the purchase of school books; that is, a thousand copies or more of a single book have been bought, placed in the public library and then doled out to the schools for class use. The speaker believed that the function of a public library is higher than this. Books are so many nowadays, especially the scientific books, the histories, the art books and all others not belonging to literature par excellence, that a sufficient collection, in most communities, cannot be had without the expenditure of public funds. The expenditure of any funds appropriated for library uses for the purchase of school books weakens the public library in its primary purpose, while the distribution of the free school books injures the self-reliance of the recipients.

A general discussion followed, opened by F. W. Nichols, superintendent of schools of Evanston, Ill.

The second session of the department was held in the hall of the Boston Public Library on Friday morning, July 10. Dr. Canfield

presiding. Mr. H. G. Wadlin was called on for remarks, and spoke briefly. The first paper read was by Ernest O. Holland, of the Louisville Male High School, on "The library as an adjunct to the secondary school." Miss Clara B. Mason, of Omaha, Neb., spoke on "Some Nebraska experiments," describing co-operative educational work done by libraries in that state. W. H. Brett described the co-operative work carried on by the Cleveland Public Library with the normal schools in that city; and Miss M. E. Ahern read an excellent paper on "Library instruction in the normal schools." This subject was further considered by James M. Green, of the State Normal School of Trenton, N. J.; E. O. Lyte, of Millersville, Pa., and others. The final address was made by Melvil Dewey.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF CHICAGO.

A REGULAR meeting of the Bibliographical Society of Chicago was held in connection with the annual meeting of the American Library Association, at Niagara Falls, on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 22. The following were elected members of the society: Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.; T. W. Koch, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.; Edith Clarke, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont; Carrie M. Watson, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan.; W. H. Austen, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; Martin F. Onnen, New York City, N. Y.; Wilberforce Eames, New York Public Library, New York City, N. Y.; Ernest L. Gay, Boston, Mass.

The president, Mr. Josephson, addressed the society as follows:

"For the third time resident and non-resident members meet in connection with the annual conference of the A. L. A., but while the first of these meetings, two years ago, was a purely informal gathering, and the second was called specially to consider the organization of an American Bibliographical Society, we meet to-day in regular session. The question of forming an American society, which has been before us now for two years, will again occupy our attention. It seems that the large number of non-resident members of the Chicago society shows a widespread interest in this country in scientific bibliography, and I trust consequently that the proposition to form a national—or even a continental—organization might meet with approval. It was my privilege to make a few introductory remarks at the organization meeting of this society four years ago, and I expressed at the time my hope that the work then started might lead to the formation of a national body. I hope to see a definite step in that direction taken before we part. Has the time for definite action come yet? That is the question before us.

"We have in the Chicago society a nucleus

for a larger organization, and this society stands ready to lose its individual identity in that of the larger body whenever the latter shall be formally organized. We have devoted ourselves nearly exclusively to the problems of scientific bibliography, or rather to the bibliography of the various sciences—we have so far touched on the bibliography of mathematics, physics, philosophy, history, English literature, and general and national bibliography. But an American Bibliographical Society must cover the whole field of bibliography. The field is large and diversified. It covers not only the recording of printed literature, in general, national, and special bibliographies, and the method of describing individual books, but also the history of the book as a manufactured product and an object of interest to the collector and book-lover. An American Bibliographical Society must take especial interest in American bibliography, and the history of printing in America. We have many admirable monographs on American bibliographical subjects, but a general history of printing in America has not been attempted for nearly a century, and the complete bibliography of American literature is still wanting.

"The greatest problem before us is that of the organization of bibliographical work. The question of an endowed institute for bibliographical research will sooner or later become actual. The history of the American Regional Bureau of the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature shows plainly that it is only through private enterprise and in the way of private endowments that undertakings of purely scientific interest can be attempted in this country.

"Great credit is due the Smithsonian Institution for having stepped in when the whole plan of the International Catalogue was in danger on account of the refusal of Congress to take part in the work together with the other leading nations of the world. The vastness of this work should not let us forget that it does not include one-half even of the literary productions of the day—the historical and philosophical sciences, belles-lettres, art, and industry being entirely outside its scope, and the literature of the past not considered.

"It would be the province of an American bibliographical society to enlist the active interest of bibliographers and scholars in this matter, and to take the lead in the agitation for the founding of a center for bibliographical endeavors in America."

A paper by Dr. Cyrus Adler on the International Catalogue of Scientific Literature was then read by Mr. Koch, of the Library of Congress.

Dr. Herbert Haviland Field, as guest, gave an account of the Concilium Bibliographicum, founded in Zürich by the third International Congress of Zoology, in 1895.

This institute collects and records all publications in biology, giving to each article separate cards of Library Bureau size. These

cards aggregate at present 12 millions for 150,000 titles, and thus constitutes one of the largest, if not indeed the largest, collection of printed bibliographical cards. The Concilium Bibliographicum regards it as a technical triumph to have produced these cards for sale at the low price of one-fifth cent per card. Besides supplying libraries and other institutions with complete sets of cards, the Concilium permits individual investigators to order cards for their own specialties. Thus the traveller going to Borneo could apply for the cards dealing with the fauna of Borneo. He would receive these at a nominal charge. In like manner any topic of investigation whatsoever can be asked for. The institute is to-day nearly self-supporting, though it receives an annual subsidy of \$1500 from the Swiss Federal Government. It confidently hopes that bibliographers in America will lend it their support in obtaining similar financial aid in the United States.

Dr. E. C. Richardson commended Dr. Field's work highly, and recommended the Concilium Bibliographicum to American librarians and bibliographers.

Dr. K. D. Jessen was absent, and his paper "On the present status of our knowledge of Gutenberg" was not read.

Mr. Wilberforce Eames, of the Lenox Library, New York, made the following report for the committee on the formation of an American bibliographical society:

"At a meeting of the Bibliographical Society of Chicago, held in connection with the annual meeting of the American Library Association, at Magnolia, Mass., on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 18, 1902, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved. That a committee of three be appointed by the chair to draft rules and regulations for the government of an American Bibliographical Society, and to devise a plan for raising the necessary funds for carrying out the same; and that the power to act and organize such a bibliographical society with local branches be entrusted to that committee, it being deliberately recorded that all steps taken during the current year shall be tentative only, with a view to the reconsideration and better adaptation of the ends to the means at the next meeting of the American Library Association, and that the committee confer with the proper authorities of the American Library Association and the Bibliographical Society of Chicago to bring about the accomplishment of the project. (L. J., 27:774-775.)

"The committee named were as follows: Mr. John Thomson, of Philadelphia, chairman; Mr. Wilberforce Eames, of New York; Mr. William C. Lane, of Cambridge. Mr. Thomson afterwards resigned from the committee, and Mr. Lane was made chairman. As Mr. Lane was not able to be present at this meeting, I have been requested by him to prepare the following report for the committee, which I present now:

"Report of the committee.

"The committee recommends that in the formation of a national bibliographical so-

ciety—which might be called the American Bibliographical Association—the Chicago society should invite very widely the co-operation of book collectors and scholars generally, besides librarians, in order to give the new society a more representative character at the start. It is the opinion of the committee that this plan would gain more members than if the present society should change its name, merely of its own volition, to the more comprehensive one.

"The committee suggests that in order to give the new society a vigorous start the Chicago society ought to have some definite publications in hand to propose as the first issues of the new society. It is recommended also that the organization of the new society be left in the hands of the Bibliographical Society of Chicago.

"Respectfully submitted for
"WILLIAM C. LANE, *Chairman.*
"WILBERFORCE EAMES."

Mr. Austen, of Cornell University Library, and Mr. Finney, of the University of Michigan, expressed the wish that it would be possible to organize a national society, since people outside Chicago could not take an active interest in the local society. Dr. Richardson stated that in organizing a national society an attempt should be made to include book-lovers and bibliographers as well as librarians. The report of the committee as given was adopted and the society adjourned. The papers read at the meeting will be published in the year-book of the society.

CHARLES H. BROWN, *Secretary.*

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE Library Association of the United Kingdom has issued the provisional program for its 26th annual meeting, to be held at Leeds, Sept. 8-10, 1903. The program seems well arranged and interesting, and a new departure appears to be the grouping of papers under certain broad topics. There are three of these: "Conference on the relations between public education and the public libraries," covering "1, Children" and "2, Adults," which will include representatives of the National Union of Teachers, Association of Head Masters, Association of Head Mistresses, Association of Assistant Masters in Secondary Schools, and National Home Reading Union; "Branch Libraries;" and a "Librarians' Section" to be devoted to a consideration of the "Best books of 1902." The latter will be held simultaneously with a "Committee's Section" meeting, evidently following the plan of the A. L. A. Trustees' Section. Two exhibits are planned, one illustrative of branch library buildings and equipment, the other representative of the best books of 1902.

American Library Association.

President: Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Secretary: J. I. Wyer, Jr., University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

Treasurer: Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS.

Relations of libraries and booktrade: A. E. Bostwick, Hiller C. Wellman, Purd B. Wright.

Headquarters for A. L. A.: Herbert Putnam, Edwin H. Anderson, C. W. Andrews, John S. Billings, R. R. Bowker.

State Library Commissions.

COLORADO TRAVELLING LIBRARY COMMISSION.

The following persons have been appointed by the governor members of the travelling library commission established by the last state legislature: Mrs. Mary C. Bradford and Mrs. A. M. Welles, for one year; Mrs. W. S. Peabody and Mrs. T. A. McHarg, for two years; Mrs. Z. X. Snyder, for three years. The legislature appropriated \$2000 for the purchase of books, \$1000 to be used in 1903 and the same amount in 1904. The members of the commission draw no salary. It will have an office in the capitol.

State Library Associations.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Henry M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Miss Flora B. Roberts, State Library, Lansing.

Treasurer: Mrs. M. F. Jewell, Public Library, Adrian.

The 13th annual meeting of the Michigan Library Association was held at Niagara Falls on Thursday, June 25. Some 30 members were present, representing various parts of the state. The meeting was called to order at 2.30 p.m. in Parlor A of the International Hotel.

The president, Mr. Utley, stated that the executive board had decided to hold the meeting of the association at this time and place, in the expectation that it would help to attract to the meeting of the A. L. A. members who would not otherwise attend the meeting of the larger association, and that they would derive much greater practical benefit from such attendance than they could possibly secure from a smaller meeting within the state. This is in the nature of an experiment, which in this case had proven quite satisfactory. At the same time, he would not advise its repetition, certainly not in two successive years.

In his view, the work of the state association is among the librarians of the smaller libraries and is in the nature of institute work. He believed the association should meet at least once each year—twice if feasible—in different places for the sake of being accessible to the smaller libraries scattered through the state and of gathering in the librarians who need primary instruction and who lack opportunities for learning what they sadly need to know.

Miss Ahern endorsed the view of the president and urged the advisability of a meeting within the state, in preference to one held in conjunction with the A. L. A.

Miss Steinman, librarian of the Grand Rapids Public Library, invited the association to hold its next meeting in that city, stating that the new library building will be occupied during the coming fall and that the members will probably be glad of the opportunity to see it. On motion, it was voted to accept the invitation to hold the next meeting in Grand Rapids, the date to be fixed by the executive board.

The annual report of the secretary was read and accepted.

A nominating committee was appointed which subsequently brought in the following nominations which were unanimously confirmed: President, Henry M. Utley, librarian Public Library, Detroit; 1st vice-president, Byron A. Finney, assistant librarian, University Library; 2d vice-president, Mrs. E. S. Grierson, librarian Public Library, Calumet; secretary, Miss Flora B. Roberts, assistant, State Library, Lansing; treasurer, Mrs. M. F. Jewell, librarian Public Library, Adrian.

No program of topics having been previously prepared, the meeting took up the subject of library clubs and the president called upon Mr. H. O. Severance of the University Library to explain the formation and work of the Ann Arbor club. He stated that the club was organized in January last and is composed of all the people in the town interested in library work. Meetings have been held regularly every month and have been well attended and interesting.

The work of the Detroit Library Club was explained by Miss Poray. This club, which is so far composed wholly of members of the staff of the public library, though all library workers in the city and suburbs are invited and welcomed, was organized in January last. Meetings have since been held every month. The idea is to have some work and some play, and so at each meeting there is a discussion of some library topic of practical interest followed by a social session. All the meetings have been entirely successful.

Miss Irene Gibson, formerly of the Detroit library staff, now connected with the Library of Congress, gave an account of the Washington Library Association. There being nearly 200 people engaged in library work in Wash-

ington, the club is a large one. The meetings are frequent and the topics taken up have to do with the more technical features of library work.

Miss M. E. Hazeltine, of the Jamestown (N. Y.) Public Library, being invited to speak, told of the work which had been done by organizing the comparatively small staff of that library into a club for the practical instruction of its members in things outside their routine duties which it is worth while for them to know. She said it is not necessary to have a large membership in order to have a successful club. It pays to develop the interest and enthusiasm which such an organization is sure to promote.

Miss F. Humphrey, librarian of the Lansing Public Library, gave an account of her experience with the Tabard Inn Library, to which the Lansing library is a subscriber. She thoroughly endorsed the plan as economical for the library and satisfactory to its patrons.

Mrs. Mary C. Spencer, state librarian, gave an account of the progress and development of the travelling libraries, which had never been so popular nor in so great demand as now. The recent legislature was quite liberal in making appropriation for this work, and every effort will be made to meet the calls for these libraries by increasing the supply and enlarging the variety of subjects.

The association then adjourned and the members dined together and closed their meeting in a very enjoyable social way.

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. E. Foster, Public Library, Providence.

Secretary-Treasurer: Frank J. Bates, State Library, Providence.

A summer meeting of the Rhode Island Library Association was held at the Barrington Public Library on June 5. The president, Mr. Foster, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., and the first paper read was by Henry D. Harvey, superintendent of schools, Pawtucket, on "Relation of the library to the schools." This was followed by a general discussion of the topic. Librarians from various parts of the state related their experiences.

Adjournment was taken at noon, and the afternoon session was opened with a report by Miss Isabel Emerson, of Providence, of the recent joint meeting of New England library associations. H. L. Koopman, of Brown University Library, read a paper giving a detailed account of the processes involved in cataloging a book in a large library, and the main topic of the day, "Covered or uncovered books?" was introduced by Miss Shephard, of the Springfield City Library, who spoke strongly in favor of uncovered volumes. A general discussion followed. Mrs. Saunders, of Olneyville, said that her experience had

been that it was best to cover books in a manufacturing community. Mrs. Root, of the Providence Public Library, said that all books in that library except some of the more popular fiction and some of the children's books were uncovered. Other librarians spoke on the subject, those in favor of uncovered books having decidedly the better of the argument.

In all about 45 persons were present at the meeting.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Edward M. Goddard, assistant state librarian, Montpelier.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Edith E. Clarke, University of Vermont, Burlington.

A meeting of the Vermont Library Association was held in connection with the meeting of the American Library Association at the Cataract House, Niagara Falls, on June 26. The meeting was called to order by the president, Miss Sarah C. Hagar, librarian of the Fletcher Library, Burlington. Miss Hagar, having been active in the organization of the association and president during its nearly ten years of existence, declined renomination. Accordingly the meeting elected as its new officers Edward M. Goddard, librarian of the State Historical Society and assistant librarian of the State Library, Montpelier, as president, and Miss Edith E. Clarke, librarian of the University of Vermont, Burlington, as secretary-treasurer. President Goddard then took the chair, and some time was devoted to discussion of ways in which the association could extend its membership and help the libraries of the state. It was suggested, as the association is composed of practical librarians and the state commission has no one with actual experience on it, that the association could best accomplish its purposes by offering the services of its members to the state commission and co-operating with that body. Several sectional meetings to come within reach of the librarians of the small libraries in their respective districts were decided to be better than attempting one large central meeting each year. Miss Mary P. Farr, of Philadelphia, library organizer from Drexel Institute Library School, who has been in charge during the past year of cataloging and classifying the state library at Montpelier, suggested that after the work was completed there the librarians of the state should have an opportunity to see what had been accomplished. Mr. Goddard also expressed his hospitable desire that all librarians of the state should look upon the state library as their headquarters, and called attention to its availability as a center for the work of the commission and the association. Miss Esther Taber reported that the state commission was planning a Library Round Table at St. Johnsbury and possibly also at Rutland the latter part of August. The meeting then adjourned.

Library Clubs.

BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield, Mass.

Secretary: Miss Ella E. Miersch, Southbridge, Mass.

Treasurer: Miss Eliza Hobbs, Brookfield, Mass.

The Bay Path Library Club held its sixth annual meeting in the hall of the Hitchcock Free Academy in Brimfield, Mass., June 11.

The address of welcome was given by Mr. Wellington Hodgkins, principal of the academy, who spoke of the interest Brimfield has always had in matters of culture, of the interest of her citizens in books and education shown by the gift to the town of the academy and by the recent gift of a new library building from a native of the town, J. D. Lincoln.

The response of the president was followed by a short business session.

Miss Ada L. Joslin, of the library committee of the Woman's Education Association, then gave a series of most interesting book reviews in a paper on "Some recent books." The following were included: "Studies in contemporary biography," by Bryce; "Recollections literary and personal," of Richard Henry Stoddard; "New letters and memorials of Jane Welsh Carlyle," "The story of my life," by Helen Keller; "A service in memory of Alice Freeman Palmer," "Life of Channing," by Chadwick; "Remembrances of Emerson," by Albee; "Letters of Mlle. de Lespinasse," "Literary landmarks of Oxford," by Hutton; "Letters of a self-made merchant to his son," by Lorimer; "The woman who toils," by Van Vorst; "The flower beautiful," by Weed; "Walks in New England," by Whiting; "Our northern shrubs," by Keeler; "Where town and country meet," by Buckham. Dr. Ross, of Wales, called attention to Markham's "Lincoln and other poems," and said it should be in every library.

The next subject, "The library and the young people," was opened by Miss Ida F. Farrar, of the Springfield City Library. Miss Farrar said: "We must put ourselves in the child's world if we would direct his reading with understanding. Up to eight years the child lives in a land of fairy lore and myth, from eight to fourteen boys crave adventure, girls sentiment. Love of poetry should be cultivated in children, even the smallest children delight in rhythm. The librarian can lead the child from picture books, through stories, to books that will instruct and inspire."

Mr. Wheeler, superintendent of schools of Monson and of Brimfield, spoke of some of the means used to get young people to read good books. Reference was made to the lists

of books of "required" reading in the Monson and Brimfield public schools and to the additional lists "recommended." But there must not be too much supervision of a child's reading. By overdirection originality may be destroyed. Children read better books than they did fifteen years ago.

At the afternoon session Mr. W. I. Fletcher told of the "Increasing advantages offered by public libraries." "Great improvements have been made in library buildings, in the present buildings in which use and beauty are combined; in the free access to shelves, where the books can be found classified; the abolition of the age limit; children are now among the most welcome visitors; the adoption of the two-book system and the relaxing of strict library rules; and most important of all, in the improved modern librarian who is fond of people as well as of books, who studies both books and people to bring them together."

Rev. E. B. Dolan, of Wales, gave an account of pictures which have been presented to the Wales library, including nearly 300 foreign photographs.

Rev. W. E. Waterbury, of Springfield, gave the closing address, the subject being the new book-plate of the Brimfield library, "Books give the far view."

ELLA E. MIERSCH, *Secretary.*

CAPE COD LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Everett I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.

Secretary: Miss M. N. Soule, Hyannis, Mass.

Treasurer: Miss E. C. Nye, Sturgis Library, Barnstable, Mass.

The fifth meeting of the Cape Cod Library Club was held in Hyannis, June 5, at the State Normal School. The attendance numbered about 50.

The exercises were opened by the president, Mr. Nye. After a short business meeting, Miss Soule, the secretary, paid a fitting tribute to the memory of the late Hon. Charles F. Swift, the first president of the club. Mr. Alfred Crocker followed Miss Soule, and added that in Mr. Swift's death every cause that tended to the uplifting of the people of the Cape had lost an earnest worker, all had lost a friend. A rising vote of sympathy was then taken.

Mr. George H. Tripp, of the New Bedford Public Library, read a paper on "The relation of the public library to the public school," and Mr. Baldwin, principal of the normal school, spoke of some experiences in connection with this subject. An informal discussion followed, in which Miss Chadwick told something of the reading of nature books in her grade in the training school.

Luncheon was served the visitors at the Iyanough House. In the afternoon visits were made to the Hyannis Library, the normal and training schools.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

CHAUTAUQUA SUMMER SCHOOL.

The Chautauqua Institution Library School was in session from July 4 to August 14, with 29 students registered. The general course offered for the session of six weeks included order and accession work, cataloging and classification, reference work and bibliography as the major subjects. The lectures in these courses were supplemented by practice work, which was done under the supervision of the instructors, and carefully revised. Binding, rebinding, mending, necessary reports, charging systems and other subjects were presented in lectures, with opportunity for practice work.

The school is very fortunate in its staff of non-resident lecturers, who supplement the technical instruction and give to the students the most helpful suggestions from their own experience, adding inspiration and a broader outlook. Mr. Dewey, Mr. and Mrs. Elmen-dorf, Mr. Eastman, Miss Ahern, Mr. Peck, Mr. Yust and Dr. Richard Burton met the class this year. The regular staff of instructors numbered four: Miss Hazeltine, librarian of the Prendergast Library, Jamestown, N. Y.; Miss Robbins, director of the library-training department, Simmons College, Boston, Mass.; Miss Frances L. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library School, and Miss Harriet L. Peck, New York State Library School.

The students worked faithfully and with enthusiasm. As the school is designed only for those who are actually in library work, the instruction is put at once on a high plane, and the experience of the students makes the class discussions and round table meetings valuable conferences. The enrollment of the class with their library positions, follows: The 29 students represent 14 states, two coming from Texas and two from Missouri, and one each from Florida, South Carolina and Kansas, while the others come from states nearer Chautauqua.

Register of Students.

Avery, Abbie K. B., Jacksonville, Fla.
Barnes, Tirza L., Westerville, O. B.S. 1885, Otterbein University, Westerville, O. Assistant Librarian Otterbein University.
Bodine, Mattie Durell, Mansfield, Pa. Librarian Mansfield Normal School.
Boyd, Florence, Marietta, O. Assistant Marietta Public Library.
Chipman, Katherine A., Anderson, Ind. Librarian Anderson Public Library.
Crabtree, Lilla F., New Britain, Ct. Assistant New Britain Institute Library.
Dean, Jessie, Smith Center, Kan. B.S. 1900, Washburn College, Topeka, Kan. Librarian Washburn College Library.
Durham, Josephine E., Danville, Ill. Librarian Danville Public Library.

Hapgood, Ruth A., Warren, O. Assistant Warren Public Library.
Herndon, Maude, Akron, O. B.S. 1901, Buchtel College, Akron, O. Assistant Librarian Akron Public Library.
Herring, Lucy A., Avalon, Pa.
Herrman, Jennie, Columbus, O. Substitute Travelling Libraries Dep't, Ohio State Library.
House, Mrs. William (Durham), Waco, Tex. M.A. 1882, University of Nashville, Tenn. Librarian Waco Public Library.
Kane, Florence, West Chester, Pa. Library Organizer.
McCormick, Lillian F., West Superior, Wis. Librarian West Superior Public Library.
McCullough, Elizabeth S., Logansport, Ind. Librarian Logansport Public Library.
Mazyck, Arabella S., Charleston, S. C. Assistant Librarian Charleston Society Library.
Mitchell, Grace M., Akron, O. A.B. 1900, Buchtel College, Akron, O. Assistant Akron Public Library.
Nichols, Emily L., New York, N. Y. Assistant University Settlement Library.
Parrish, Ophelia A., Kirksville, Mo. A.M. 1869, Christian College, Columbia, Mo. Librarian State Normal School.
Pope, Ethel M., Brighton, Mass. Assistant Brookline (Mass.) Public Library.
Powers, Anna M., Warrensburgh, Mo. Librarian State Normal School.
Rogers, Margaret Kenton, O. Librarian Kenton Public Library.
Smith, Zora L., Van Wert, O. Assistant Librarian Brumback Library.
Teller, Emilie J., Fredonia, N. Y. Assistant Librarian Darwin R. Barker Library.
Upleger, Margaret C., Mt. Clemens, Mich. Librarian Mt. Clemens Public Library.
Warren, Frances, Akron, O.
Warren, Mrs. Mary (T.), North Tonawanda, N. Y. Librarian North Tonawanda Public Library.
Young, Margaret, Dallas, Tex. Assistant Dallas Public Library.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The report of the director for 1902-3 gives a record of 35 students in the senior class and 44 in the junior class for that year. "These students came from the following states: Illinois (16), Indiana (2), Iowa (6), Kansas (2), Michigan (6), Minnesota (2), Missouri (1), New York (2), Ohio (4), Pennsylvania (1), and Wisconsin (6)."

New entrance requirements were adopted Dec. 8, 1902, as follows: "(1) The degree of bachelor of arts in library science may be given upon the conditions named in the catalog for graduation in the specialized courses. (2) The degree of bachelor of library science may be given to those holding the degree of bachelor of arts in library science for one year's additional work, so distributed that two full years of library work shall be ac-

complished by the candidate." The probable effect of these changes and the reasons for making them are presented at length by Miss Sharp, who reviews also the history of the school and outlines the work it covers.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The school year closed on Friday, June 19. Twenty students—11 seniors and 9 juniors—attended the sessions of the A. L. A. conference at Niagara, June 22-26.

Special lectures not previously recorded in the JOURNAL are as follows:

Mr. Thorvald Solberg, Copyright (two lectures).

Miss Mary E. Hazeltine, How to make the most of a small library.

Mr. W. E. Foster, Kinds of reference material; Using reference material; Ideals for a reference librarian.

Miss M. E. Robbins, Experiences in organization.

Dr. James H. Canfield, The function of the librarian.

The summer course closed July 1. The students expressed a high degree of satisfaction with the special course in cataloging and classification given for the first time this year.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the New York State Library School Association was held at Niagara Falls, June 24, during the A. L. A. conference. There was a large attendance. In the absence of the president and the first vice-president, the second vice-president, Mr. W. F. Yust, of the New York State Library, took the chair. The secretary's report gave a membership of 193, and the treasurer's report showed a balance of \$93.64.

The following resolution was unanimously passed:

"Resolved, That the thanks of the New York State Library School Association be returned to Mr. Charles A. Cutter for his course of alumni lectures on the Bibliography of Fine Art, delivered before the New York State Library School during the last year."

Mr. Cutter's lectures are to be printed, as are also those by Mr. Clement W. Andrews the year before, thus continuing the series begun by the publication of Dr. E. C. Richardson's lectures on Classification. The lectureship is to be continued.

The chief business before the association was a motion giving the advisory committee power to act after any general expression of opinion by former members of the school. This committee is a standing one of three members, one member to be elected each year to serve three years. After the passing of the motion the executive committee reported that they had appointed Miss Henrietta St. Barbe Brooks, of the Wellesley College Li-

brary, on the advisory committee, in place of Miss C. M. Underhill, whose term expires this year.

The following officers were elected for 1903-04: president, Mr. Phineas L. Windsor, '99, Library of Congress; 1st vice-president, Miss Josephine Clark, '90, U. S. Department of Agriculture; 2d vice-president, Mr. E. C. Williams, '01, Adelbert College Library; secretary-treasurer, Miss I. E. Lord, '97, Bryn Mawr College Library. Executive committee: the officers and Miss Harriet Wood, '99, Public Library, Cedar Rapids, Ia.; Miss Irene Gibson, '94, Library of Congress, and Mr. W. F. Yust, '01, New York State Library.

The business session having closed, Mrs. Fairchild came in and talked to the association for a few minutes. She explained first the reasons for the B. A. entrance requirements for the school. Then she spoke of the necessity of inspiring subordinates with the true idea or ideal of library work. Mr. Dewey was unable to be present, as a Council meeting was being held.

I. E. LORD, Secretary.

SIMMONS' COLLEGE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

On June 10 Simmons College ended its first year. The students in the Department of Library Science have spent six hours a week throughout the year in technical study. This time has been devoted chiefly to dictionary cataloging and typewriting, order department work, the primary steps in book evaluation, and various talks on general topics of library economy being incidentally included. The method usual in other training schools of teaching by lectures has been employed, each lecture being followed by practice work on the points considered.

The Boston Public Library having courteously given the class many of the privileges of a deposit station, it has been possible to obtain an abundance of material for this practice work.

The class has made visits to the Boston Public Library and its bindery, to the Brookline Public Library, and to the Library Bureau.

During the winter Miss Stanley, school reference librarian of Brookline, kindly repeated, as a practical example of what might be done for children, the lectures on the use of reference books which she is accustomed to give to the eighth and ninth grades of the grammar school; Professor Walker, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, gave a lecture on "Paper, its making and testing," and Mr. Bolton, of the Boston Athenæum, an informal talk on "Getting on in the world."

Next year, in addition to the regular four years' course, an advanced course will be given for those who have already finished their college training, and are therefore able to give their entire time to technical work.

Reviews.

HANEY, John Louis. A bibliography of Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Philadelphia, Printed for private circulation, 1903. 14+144 p. por. O. bds. 300 cop., \$4; 30 large-pap. cop., \$10.

This bibliography, compiled by Dr. Haney, who is instructor in English and history in the Central High School of Philadelphia, appeals to the student of literature almost as directly as it does to the collector for whom the work is specially intended. The first bibliography of Coleridge's works was compiled by the late Richard Herne Shepherd and printed in five separate issues of *Notes and Queries*, in 1895. This was to be published in book form, with revisions and additions; but, owing to Mr. Shepherd's death during the same year, the separate publication was abandoned. In 1900, some time after Dr. Haney had begun gathering material for his volume, Colonel W. F. Prideaux published uniform with his other bibliographical ventures an enlarged edition of Shepherd's contributions to *Notes and Queries*. Both Shepherd and Prideaux, however, described none but the principal English editions, mentioned the marginalia only briefly, and ignored the critical material almost entirely. These shortcomings have been fully supplied by Dr. Haney, who enumerates all the English, American and Continental editions of Coleridge's works of which he could find a trace, and arranges them in chronological order.

As the practice of grouping the various editions of single works in regular succession is not only confusing to the reader, but defeats a most useful aim of a bibliographical list, namely, that of presenting succinctly the progressive history of an author's literary activity, Dr. Haney has wisely discarded the practice. In its place he has brought together (but at the end of the volume) a table of editions, where the dates of successive editions of individual works can be learned at a glance. While every *bona fide* edition has been included, many re-issues of certain editions with later dates on the title-pages have been disregarded.

The work is arranged in 15 sections, as follows: Chronology, bibliography, editions, contributions to other works, contributions to periodicals, letters, biography, works referring to Coleridge, articles in periodicals, marginalia, Coleridge in fiction, poetical tributes, parodies and imitations, portraits, and the table of editions. A photographic reproduction of Washington Allston's portrait of Coleridge, printed on Japan paper, forms the frontispiece.

NAUDEUS, Gabriel. Instructions concerning erecting of a library: presented to my Lord the President De Mesme, and now interpreted by Jo. Evelyn, Esq. Cambridge, Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1903. 32+160 p. 12°.

The author of this little book on libraries was born at Paris in 1600, and died at Abbeville in 1653. He was but 27 years old when he wrote and published this book, the original of which is exceedingly rare. It has been reprinted in French a number of times, one of the most recent editions being the Paris one of 1876. There is also a Latin translation. The translation by Evelyn was first published in 1661, and a good English edition has long been desired by those interested in the history of the development of libraries and library economy.

Naudé, into the brief period of 53 years, crowded an immense amount of work. He published a large number of scholarly books. It was, however, while he was a student of medicine that he wrote "*Advis pour dresser une bibliothèque*." He had previously been the librarian of Henry de Mesmes, and had already gained considerable reputation for his scholarship. Later he became librarian of Cardinal Richelieu. His chief monument, however, is his founding of the library of Cardinal Mazarin, creating this library and collecting 40,000 volumes within six years. The influence of Naudé is still felt in the world-famed Mazarin library.

The edition before us contains a brief introduction by John Cotton Dana, of the Newark Free Public Library. It follows the original translation of Evelyn, "with the exception of a few obvious typographical errors;" for the original, as Evelyn says in his well-known diary, was "miserably false printed." Evelyn dedicated his translation to Edward, Earl of Clarendon.

Naudé divides his "*Advis*" into nine chapters, as follows: 1. One ought to be curious in erecting of Libraries, and why. 2. How to inform one's self, and what we ought to know concerning the erecting of a Library. 3. The Number of Books which are requisite. 4. Of what Quality and Condition Books Ought to be. 5. By what Expedients they may be procured. 6. The Disposition of the place where they should be kept. 7. Of the Order which it is requisite to assign them. 8. Of the Ornament and Decorations necessarily to be observed. 9. What ought to be the principal scope and end of such a Library.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about this "*Advis*" is what might be considered the extreme modernness of his views of the functions of a library and of the duties of a librarian. For librarians, like kings and poets, he maintains, are not born every day.

In the second chapter he tells how to gain the requisite knowledge concerning the erect-

ing of a library. First, is to take counsel and advice of such as are able to give it *viva voce* , visiting other libraries. The second is to consult and diligently to collect the precepts of those who have written upon the matter, such as the *Philobiblon* of Richard de Bury.

With reference to the books that should go into a library which is erected for the public benefit, it should "comprehend all the principal authors that have written upon a great diversity of particular subjects and chiefly upon all arts and sciences. . . . For certainly there is nothing which renders a library more commendable than when every man findes in it that which he is in search of, and could nowhere else encounter; this being a perfect Maxime that there is no book whatsoever, be it ever so bad or decried, but may in time be sought for by some person or other." The library should therefore include "all the chief and principal authors, as well ancient as modern, chosen of the best editions, in gross or in parcels, and accompanied with their most learned and best interpreters, and commentators, which are to be found in every faculty; not forgetting those which are less vulgar, and by consequent more curious;" "all the old and new authors that are worthy of consideration, in their proper languages, and particular idioms;" "all those that have best commented or explained any author or book in particular;" "all that have written and made books and tracts upon any particular subject;" "all such as have written most successfully against any science, or that have oppos'd it with most learning and animosity (howbeit without changing the principles) against the books of some of the most famous and renowned authors;" "neither are you to omit those which have innovated or changed anything in the sciences;" "one should likewise have this consideration in the choice of books, to see whether they be the first that have been composed upon the matter on which they treat;" "moreover ought one also to take notice whether the subjects upon which they treat be trifling or less vulgar, curious or negligent, spinie or facil;" "we should open our libraries and receive them therein who first wrote of subjects the least known and that have not been treated of before, unless in fragments, and very imperfectly;" "we should not neglect the works of the principal heresiarchs or fautors of new religions different from ours, more common, and revered as more just and veritable;" "I can see no extravagance or danger at all to have in the library (under caution nevertheless of a license and permission of those to whom it appertains) all the works of the most famous hereticks."

The importance of classification and cataloging has never been stated more clearly than by Naudé. "Books are for no other reason laid and reserved in this place, but that they may be serviceable upon such occasions as present themselves; which thing it is notwithstanding impossible to effect, unless

they be ranged, and disposed according to the variety of their subjects, or in such other sort, as that they may easily be found as soon as named. I affirm, moreover, that without this order and disposition, be the collection of books whatever, were it of 50,000 volumes, it would no more merit the name of library than an assembly of 30,000 men the name of an army, unless they be martielly in their several quarters under the conduct of their chiefs and captains; or a vast heap of stores and materials, that of a palace or house, till they be placed or put together according to rule, to make a perfect and accomplished structure."

The following explains the charging system recommended by Naudé: "That persons of merit and knowledge might be indulged to carry some few ordinary Books to their own Lodgings, nevertheless yet with these cautions, that it should not be for above a fortnight or three weeks at most, and that the Library-keeper be careful to register in a Book destin'd for this purpose, and divided by Letters Alphabetically, whatsoever is so lent out to one or other, together with the date of the day, the form of the Volume, and the place and year of its impression; and all this to be subscribed by the Borrower, this to be cancel'd when the Book is returned, and the day of its reddition put in the margent, thereby to see how long it has been kept; and that such as shall have merited by their diligence and care in conserving of Books, may have others the more readily lent to them."

Naudé illustrates the various points he makes by examples which show a wide knowledge of the classics and of general literature. According to the custom of the day, he gives a great number of quotations from the Latin, which to the average modern reader, however, mean nothing. Nevertheless, he has no patience with those who despise writers of the present day. To all such he pays his respects as follows: "And to speak really, there is nothing more ant to make a man a Pedant, and banish him from common sense, than to despise all Modern Authors, to court some few only of the Antient; as if they alone were, forsooth, the sole Guardians of the highest favors that the wit of man may hope for; or that Nature, jealous of the honor and reputation of her elder sons, would to our prejudice put forth all her abilities to the extremes, that she might Crown them alone with all her graces and liberality."

It is to be regretted, in the republication of a book of such interest to librarians and to booklovers generally, that the edition should be one that cannot have a large circulation. This edition is limited to 400 copies for sale. Both this and the price, \$7.50 net, makes it prohibitive for many libraries. A new translation, one giving also a translation of the Latin quotations (which are often exceedingly apt), and published at a reasonable price is much to be desired.

S: H. R.

STEENBERG, Andr. Sch. . . . Om folkbibliotek. Stockholm, Alb. Bonnier, 1902. 44 p. 14 il. 20½ cm. (Studentföreningen Verdandis smaskrifter. 110.)

The modern library movement in Sweden is not yet ten years old. The radical student society Verdandi in Upsala which in 1891 had founded a free library for workingmen in that city began in 1896 its public library work by purchasing at auction and otherwise books suitable for public libraries and offering them for sale at reduced prices to labor organizations and study clubs all over the country at a price of about one-third of the original. In 1899 about 40 new libraries had been started in this way and more than a hundred had been enlarged and infused with new life. In 1900 the society issued a list of about 1200 titles which it offered for sale at very low prices. The books are sold only to societies, especially labor and temperance societies, and to factory and parish libraries, etc. This has been made possible only through the liberality of several of the large publishers who, realizing the great value of libraries for the intellectual progress of the people, have assisted the society in its efforts to secure suitable books at low prices for these organizations and libraries, which as a rule have very small means. The selection of books was largely governed by the possibility of getting them from the publishers at reduced rates, though efforts were naturally made to secure more than a sprinkling of such books as would spread the ideas of liberal thought. In 1899 another student society of less pronounced liberal principles, Heimdal by name, entered the arena with the issuing of a catalog of books suitable for public libraries. The selection was in this case more deliberately to give a list of the best books in all branches of literature, and the society had therefore secured the assistance of specialists. The result was a list more bibliographically accurate and more comprehensive in its selection than had been offered in the short lists issued from time to time by Verdandi, excelling even the larger list previously mentioned which was issued in 1900.

In 1896 Heimdal had started an investigation into the conditions of the parish libraries which had been founded all over the country about the middle of the century. The results of this investigation were published in the series of popular pamphlets issued by the society, and showed that the parish libraries in many instances had greatly declined on account of the lack of money wherewith to buy new books. Independently of this investigation another was conducted by a school teacher, Alfred Dalin, and he came to the same results. These two investigations have served as a basis for at least two bills introduced in the Riksdag in the interests of public libraries, and if the legislators have been somewhat slow to act, there is reason to hope

that this important factor in popular education may before long be put on a firm basis with ample means for further growth. In the meantime there are several private undertakings that work for the progress of libraries; in Stockholm a "Society for popular libraries and reading rooms" has established several reading rooms in various parts of the city and the movement for a central public library in Stockholm is growing. At the two universities in Upsala and Lund, and also in Stockholm central bureaus for popular lectures have been established and one result of the activity of these lectures will naturally be a widespread demand for libraries. There are other libraries than the parish libraries, of course; in some cities and towns the library of the high school serves as a public library for the town, and in one case, in Halmstad, there is an endowed school and city library. Not least interesting are the libraries founded and owned by the labor organizations in the cities, among which that in Stockholm, founded in 1892 with 400 volumes, and now consisting of over 10,000 volumes, has a particularly interesting history.

The movement for raising the standard of education among the workingmen of Sweden has always been met with great interest among the laboring men themselves and in many cities the trades unions and other labor organizations have founded libraries of their own, which serve as useful supplements to the lecture courses held at the workingmen's institutes which are to be found in many cities. It is clear that in the near future there will be a still greater activity in Sweden in the public library field, and it was therefore a happy idea of the committee of Verdandi to ask Dr. A. S. Steenberg to write a short handbook of library economy for its series of popular pamphlets. Dr. Steenberg is well remembered by American librarians as the Danish library commissioner who travelled here last year studying library methods, especially the travelling library system. He was already familiar with American libraries as is shown by his larger handbook, published in Copenhagen some years ago, and indeed also by the present book which was written before he visited this country last year. After an enthusiastic chapter on the value of reading and a short sketch of public libraries in England and America, the bulk of the pamphlet is devoted to founding and administration of libraries. Selection of books, cataloging and loan system are treated of in a clear and simple style, easily understood by the inexperienced. The author is no advocate of red tape, and keeps constantly in mind the fact that libraries are popular educational institutions. In the new edition which presumably will be necessary before long, it would be well to omit Bret Harte's name from among the examples of the treatment of pseudonyms.

A. G. S. J.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

The *Bulletin of the New Hampshire Libraries*, issued quarterly by the library commission of that state, contains some excellent short articles in its issue for March-June. Miss Annie Carroll Moore gives practical and interesting "Suggestions for a children's room or a children's corner;" J. C. Dana writes on the influence of "Mere words" in education and in life; Miss Hasse makes a plea for the bibliographer-librarian, under the title of "Bibliothecal rhetoric;" and other articles include "Local history collections in public libraries," by R. G. Thwaites; "Annotating book lists," by C. E. Wright; "The library in a small town," by Charles K. Bolton; "Classification for small libraries," by W. R. Eastman; and "Some points about library book-bindings," by Hiller C. Wellman.

COLLINS, J. Churton. Free libraries: their functions and opportunities. (*In Nineteenth Century*, June, p. 968-981.)

An extended argument for the closer association of free libraries with the National Home Reading Union, University Extension Courses, and like systematic efforts to induce study and improve the quality of reading. It is pointed out that the influence of public libraries "is of as much power to thwart and defeat the efforts of educational philanthropists and legislators as it is of power to further and confirm them," and the very low grade of literature circulated from many public libraries is regarded as a distinct menace.

DANA, John Cotton. Fiction-readers and the libraries. (*In Outlook*, June 27, 1903. 74: 512-515.)

An interesting list is given of authors of fiction for adults, more than 70 of whose works were borrowed in three days at 34 representative free public libraries in the country, with the number of copies borrowed in each case. Crawford heads the list with 678 volumes, followed by Carey with 535 and Dumas with 486.

The Library for July opens with "Some notes on ancient writing and writing materials," by Dr. Richard Garnett. It is almost wholly devoted to bibliographical-literary subjects—"A secret press at Stepney in 1596," by H. R. Plomer; "How great minds jump," by J. River; "The bibliographical history of the first folio," by Walter W. Gregg, among others—the chief exception being a presentation of practical reprisals possible to librarians in an article called "Net books—what next?" which is given elsewhere in this issue.

The Library Association Record for July contains only two articles, in addition to the

various reviews and news departments. These are "The planning and arrangement of branch libraries," by F. T. Barrett, who recommends a one-storied building adapted to serve a district of from 70,000 to 80,000 persons with widely diffused clerestory or roof lighting; and a description of a "Union register of borrowers," by Ernest A. Savage.

A LIBRARY of libraries. (Editorial in *The Nation*, July 30, 1903. 77: 89-90.)

Discusses the plea of Mr. Iles for a headquarters of the A. L. A., as presented at the Niagara Falls meeting of the Association. The editorial closes with the statement that when the usefulness of such an institution is once fully understood it is not likely that any difficulty will be found on either the score of endowment or house room in some great library.

The Public Library Monthly makes its first appearance, with no. 1 of vol. 1, for August, 1903. This new publication is issued by the American Architect Co., of Boston, and is a 24-page folio, illustrated, and well printed. Its aim is announced as being "to bring the public into close relation with the public library as it at the moment exists," and the first number contains a reprint of Sidney Greenslade's paper on "Libraries in the United States" (summarized in L. J., 27: 823), an extract from Charles Reade's "Hard cash," miscellaneous literary and library notes, and an assortment of full-page illustrations, including the Walker Art Gallery of Bowdoin College, the Cathedral of St. Peter at Ratisbon, and the Library and Loggetta of Venice.

SHAW, Adèle Marie. The day's work of a librarian. (*In The World's Work*, July, 6: 3688-3689.)

An interesting though rather overdrawn sketch of the daily work of the librarian of a small public library. All the incidents noted as happening in one day are more likely to be spread over a month or six months, in actual experience.

LOCAL.

Baltimore Enoch Pratt F. L. At a recent meeting of the board of trustees the age limit for obtaining cards for drawing books was reduced from 12 to 10 years, with the power at discretion to issue cards to children under 10.

Bon Air (Va.) P. L. The Hazen Memorial Library building was opened to the public on the evening of July 21, when a book reception was held.

Bowdoin College L., Brunswick, Me. (20th rpt.—year ending June 1, 1903.) Added 2788; total 76,240. Issued for home use 7991; "no record is made of the use of books within the building, though that of those specially reserved at the loan desk is very great."

"It is expected that the admirable facilities offered undergraduates for study in the new

library building will tend to decrease rather than increase the number of formal loans. On the other hand there is a constantly growing use of our collection by literary workers in other parts of the state who are glad to pay the cost of transportation in order to consult books not otherwise to be obtained. It is believed that by means of the combined catalog of the periodicals in the larger libraries in Maine, which the state library association proposes to issue, our somewhat unusual resources in this direction will become of much greater service to students at other institutions."

Brimfield (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending March 18, 1903.) Added 112; total "over 4000." Issued 5364, to 453 borrowers. Receipts and expenses \$286.41.

Several art exhibitions have been held, from the travelling pictures of the Woman's Education Association, and photographs loaned by others.

The distribution of books to distant parts of the town has been carried on by the aid of interested women, who have issued them from their homes, from schools or the railroad station.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. For the reorganization of the Brooklyn Library, in Montague street, now merged in the Public Library system, the city board of estimate has granted the sum of \$90,000. It is expected that the library will be opened under the new conditions in September.

California State L. Word comes from California that through the efforts of the California Library Association and the trustees of the State Library of California an amendment has lately been made to the code which clothes these trustees with ampler powers.

They are particularly empowered to gather statistics concerning libraries within the state, and also to loan books from the state library at their discretion. It is expected that not only will individuals and libraries throughout the state be allowed the use of volumes, but that travelling libraries will be sent out.

Charlotte (N. C.) Carnegie L. The new library building was opened to the public at midday on July 2. The ceremonies were participated in by the mayor and aldermen, the school board, and a large number of citizens.

The city purchased the lot, on one of the main streets, at a cost of \$15,000, and the building is the gift of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, costing \$25,000. 3500 volumes form the nucleus for future work, not including any pamphlets and unbound books. Thomas S. Franklin is president of the board of directors, and Mrs. Annie Smith Ross is librarian.

Chelsea, Mass. Fitz P. L. (33d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1902.) Added 914; total 18,355. Issued, home use 77,181, of which 1847 were drawn by teachers. New registration 670.

"Eight Library Art Club exhibitions were held during the year. They were Holland, Japan, Hawaii, Oberammergau, Siena, California, Boston & Maine Railroad views, and *Youth's Companion* sketches. There has been a small increase in the general circulation and a large increase in the use of the children's room."

Columbia, Ct. Little L. The Saxton B. Little Free Library was dedicated on June 17. The building, which is the gift of Joseph Hutchins, cost in all \$2749.12, of which Mr. Hutchins gave \$2246.86, the remainder being secured by public subscriptions; it is named in honor of the original founder of the library, Saxton B. Little, of Meriden. Mr. Little, who is over 90 years old, and a native of Columbia, was present at the dedication exercises, and spoke in reminiscence of the early days of the town. The library, which was originally called the Columbia Free Library, was organized in February, 1883, at the suggestion of Mr. Little, who later gave an endowment fund of \$1500. It now contains about 5000 v. and has an average circulation of 2500.

Danielson, Ct. Bugbee Memorial L. The new building was dedicated on June 2.

Drew Theological Seminary L., Madison, N. J. (9th rpt. — year ending June 1, 1903.) Added 7668 v., 6437 pm.; total 78,091 v., 63,258 pm. The use of the library has been greater by more than 10 per cent. than last year. This is attributed to three causes — the use of a bulletin board for special topic and reading lists; the issue of cards to each clergyman in the county, extending library privileges in so far as such use did not interfere with use by students and faculty; and the development of the research bureau, by which special investigation work is done for those desiring it, at a moderate compensation.

Fairfield (Ct.) Memorial L. Assoc. The beautiful new building of the library association was dedicated on June 12, with formal exercises, among the speakers being Dr. F. S. Child, Henry Fairfield Osborn, Dr. William L. Phelps, Rev. Samuel Hart, president of the Connecticut Historical Society; Judge Perry, president of the Pequot Library Association of Southport; and Dr. Timothy Dwight, ex-president of Yale University.

The building is colonial in style, 30 x 60 in ground area, with a rear wing 10 x 20. It is two-storied, of red brick, laid with Flemish bond and white mortar, and has white marble trimmings. The first floor contains reading room, a social room, a stack room, and on the second floor are a lecture hall, a room for the Daughters of the Revolution Society, the upper stories of the stack room, and a kitchen for use in case of entertainments. The building, site and equipment, cost in all about \$30,000, raised by popular subscription. There are about 6000 volumes on the shelves.

The Fairfield Memorial Library Association was formed in 1876, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the independence of the United States.

Fargo (N. D.) P. L. (1st rpt.) Added 906; total 3649. Issued (Jan. 28-April 31, 1903) 5775. Registration 1414.

The Carnegie library building was opened on Jan. 28, 1903, and the record of work done is mainly during the three months following.

Helena (Mont.) P. L. (17th rpt., 1902; in lib. bulletin 25, June, 1903.) Added 2416; total 32,503. Issued, home use, 75,212 (fict. 60%). New registration 814; cards in use 6699. Receipts \$8321.27; expenses \$8100.03.

"The loans to young people for home use were 39 per cent. of the entire home circulation." More duplicates of the better children's books are much needed, as are additions to the more solid classes in the general collection; "last year only 13 per cent. of the additions of books were fiction, and of these a number were bought to replace volumes withdrawn."

Two bulletins have been published, one, in May, contained the reports for 1901 and a list of new books, another in December contained a book list only. "A more frequent issue of the bulletin is a pressing need."

Jenkintown, Pa. Abington L. Assoc. The 100th anniversary of the library association, which occurred Feb. 19, 1903, was celebrated June 15, when announcement was made of the fact that henceforth the library would be free to the public.

When the library was founded Jenkintown possessed only about 25 houses, and there were 33 original members of the association. The grandfather of Charles Mather, the present venerable secretary, was one of the number. The first book purchased was Oliver Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield;" it is still in the library in a good state of preservation. The society obtained a charter in September, 1805. The membership fee was fixed at \$6 and reached the maximum of \$10 in 1815. Since then it has been repeatedly reduced, the last time in 1902, and now it is \$1. When in 1803 the members numbered 33, there were 150 volumes in the library. There are now 4200 volumes and 190 members. The membership had fallen in 1902, before the fee was reduced to \$1, to 13 persons. The library was in that year installed in the first story of Masonic Hall, where it now is. Since 1902 its patronage has constantly increased. In the last 12 months 6511 persons visited it.

Jersey City (N. J.) F. P. L. (12th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, 1902.) Added 7975; total 83,025. Issued, home use, 435,212 (fict. 45.31%; juv. fict. 27.41%). New registration and renewals 4423. Through the school room libraries 7539 v. were circulated.

Of the books issued for home reading — the

largest number in the history of the library — 231,850 v. were distributed through the 14 delivery stations; "with this increase more discrimination has been exercised in the selection of books." The percentage of fiction (adult and juvenile) for the year covered was 72.72, as against 76.35 for the year preceding. A series of free lectures were given in the library lecture hall, which have proved most successful. Dr. Gordon says: "One experimental lecture for school children was given in the lecture hall," and adds, "its success in attendance was so marked that it was not deemed wise to repeat the same" — which seems rather enigmatical. The report of the librarian, Miss Burdick, is compact and well arranged.

Laconia, N. H. Gale Memorial L. The dedication of the library building was held on June 9.

Lewiston (N. Y.) F. L. Arrangements have been made by which residents of the township of Lewiston, outside the village, will be enabled to draw books from the Lewiston Free Library through the facilities of rural free delivery. The rural mail carriers will exchange books for borrowers on payment to them of a fee of two cents for each exchange; for persons desiring to borrow books in this way it is only necessary to sign the application card furnished by the carrier and give to the carrier the list of books desired, paying the sum of two cents for each exchange. Abridged catalogs of more than 300 of the best books in the library have been prepared and may be purchased of the carrier for 10 cents each. It is believed that the Lewiston library is the first in the township thus to avail itself of exchange through the rural delivery. While it is not required that borrowers shall be subscribing members of the library association, they are urged to become members, paying the annual fee of \$1.

Marquette, Mich. State Normal School. The library of the late Moses Coit Tyler, professor of American History at Cornell, has been purchased by some of his former students and admirers, to be maintained as a memorial library at the State Normal School. A fire-proof addition to the library is being constructed to receive the collection, where it will be placed as soon as the books can be shipped from Ithaca. Besides the standard books in American history, American church history and American literature, the library contains many rare specimens of early Americana not found in American libraries outside of special collections.

Medford (Mass.) P. L. (47th rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, 1903.) Added 1501; total 25,803. Issued, home use 85,645 (fict. 71%; juv. fict. 45%). Receipts and expenses \$8706.79.

The net price system, in increasing the cost of books, reduced the number of books pur-

chased during the year about 25 per cent. As an offset to the reduced supply of new books, the library has adopted the plan of subscribing to the Tabard Inn library system, a yearly rental of \$150 giving the use of 1500 current volumes; 125 books are sent back every month if desired and 125 more sent to take their places. "Although the experiment has been in operation less than a month, the plan seems very acceptable to the public and satisfies the longing for something new."

Miss Sargent recommends, as means of extending the library's usefulness, the supply of books to Sunday-school libraries, the circulation of sheet music, and the development of the collection of photographs. A record of the occupations of the 5494 persons who use the library is given, not quite one-half of this number (2200) being school children.

In the children's room bulletins and special holiday exhibits have been arranged. "In this room have been introduced dissected maps, dissected locomotives, dissected fire-engines, puzzle blocks and games. These have been a perfect delight to the children, and have had a very quieting and humanizing effect upon a certain unruly and restless element that appears among us and which we could not reach with books."

Michigan City (Ind.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending May 1, 1903.) Added 542; total 7057. Issued 37,984 (fict. 76.37%; juv. 33.8%). New registration 277; cards in use 2049.

The report is in two parts, the first from May to October, having been prepared by Miss Marilla Freeman; previous to her acceptance of the librarianship of Davenport, Ia. Miss Edwards, the present librarian, describes the various ways in which the influence of the library is extended, especially through reaching the schools, and by the issue of special cards of greeting and invitation to non-users of the library.

At the annual meeting of the board an offer was received from Hon. John H. Barker of \$5000 for an endowment fund, provided an equal amount was raised by subscription. It is hoped the conditions may be met.

Mount Vernon (N. Y.) P. L. (7th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1903.) Added 1106, of which 937 were bought. Issued, home use 72,968, a daily average of 239 (fict. 42.692; juv. fict. 10.401). This is an increase of 20,931 v. over the previous year.

"The shelf list has been transferred to cards and filed in the old catalog case. The catalog has been revised and transferred to a new case. Printed catalog cards are being obtained from the Library of Congress, but the scope of these cards is limited and at least one-fourth of the accessions to the library must still be cataloged." The change to the Library of Congress card size has necessitated the copying of the old catalog, which is now in progress.

A bi-monthly bulletin is published without

cost to the library, and distributed through the schools and among readers. The children's books have been shelved in a corner of the stack room, and a "children's corner" has been set apart near the delivery desk. The importance of completing the sets of magazines and rounding out the reference collection is strongly felt. "There has been a steady demand for up-to-date works on sociology and for the new scientific books. As an instance of this, 25 books on electricity have been added to the library during this year. So great has been their popularity that a reserve postal card has often been necessary to obtain any one of them."

New Britain (Ct.) Institute L. (49th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1903.) Statistics of additions and total volumes are not given. Issued 110,910. Total cardholders 6326. The year covered "is the first full year in which the institute has occupied its present location, and had the facilities for work, which its present rooms and equipment afford."

New Brunswick (N. J.) F. P. L. (13th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1903.) Added 384; total (incl. books of Free Circulating Library) 18,256. Issued, home use, 52,001 (fict. 28,493; juv. 11,754); visitors to reading room 28,024. Receipts \$40,281.62 (of which \$21,627.47 was from Andrew Carnegie); expenses \$39,572.46. This report includes also the 20th annual report of the Free Circulating Library, the books of which are leased by the Public Library, showing a total of 9532 v., receipts of \$1463.22 and expenses of \$839.40.

On Feb. 1, 1903, a duplicate pay collection of popular books was established; "the plan has been very much approved, and the money expended for the books bought Feb. 1 has already been more than half returned."

New Jersey libraries. In *The Library News*, issued by the Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library, suggestion is made for the publication of a *Journal of New Jersey Libraries*, to be prepared in co-operation, and to be devoted to reading matter about New Jersey libraries and library law, general library information and annotated lists of recent books recommended for purchase by New Jersey libraries. It is planned to issue the publication through the New Jersey Public Library Commission.

New York City. Aguilar F. L. Soc. (14th rpt.) This is the final report of the library, which was consolidated with the New York Public Library on March 1, 1903. It appropriately includes an historical sketch, and the president and chairman of the library committee make fitting mention of its record of usefulness. The library was organized in October, 1886, and incorporated on Nov. 15 of the same year, and at the same time the collections of the Hebrew Free School Association and the Young Men's Hebrew Association were merged in the new organization.

Funds were secured to maintain and develop its usefulness, and the three branches maintained at 721 Lexington avenue, 206 East Broadway, and 624 Fifth street, respectively, have more than proved their value to the community and the wisdom of their founders. The chief statistics for the year covered are: Added 10,825, distributed among the four branches and the travelling library department; total 85,541. Issued 757,217, of which 364,104 were juvenile. New registration 14,840; renewals 30,441. Details of the work at the various libraries are noted.

Dr. Leipziger, in his report as chairman of the library committee, refers to the chief features of the Aguilar Library's work, notably the development of children's libraries, the extension of open shelf facilities and of reference work, and co-operation with the public schools. It is undoubtedly true that, as he says, "the work the library has accomplished in the 17 years of its existence has been marked by a fine spirit," and all who know its record will wish for the deepening and widening of its future as a part of the present great public library system of New York City.

New York P. L. An exhibition illustrating applied art has been arranged in the lower hall of the Astor Library. Plates from a new volume of the publication "Der modern Styl" offer an interesting review of modern and ultra-modern German and French design. There are pictures of furniture, screens, clocks, wall-papers, candle-sticks, electric light fixtures, ceramics, door-plates, bronze doors, store fronts, store interiors, bookbindings, end papers, magazine covers, leatherwork, fans, embroidery, textiles, friezes, jewelry. Exhibitions such as this bring the resources of the library in special fields before the public, and are of obvious interest and usefulness to students and workers in various branches of art. Experience has shown that such pictures, illustrating fields of art which are so intimately connected with daily life, interest many.

Newburyport (Mass.) P. L. (47th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, 1902.) Added 1382; total 38,232. Issued, home use 43,315 (fict. 77.66%). Cards in use 3697, of which 2946 are held by registered borrowers, the others being special cards issued to teachers. Receipts \$3907.02; expenses \$4242.14.

The additions of the year include a large percentage of children's books, of the 459 volumes of fiction added 143 being juvenile; "the library is also stronger than ever in books dealing with the teachers' science and art."

Newton (Mass.) F. L. (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1902.) Added 2008; total 61,275. Issued, home use 152,804 (fict. 57.17%). New registration 1100; total registration 14,861.

Of the volumes issued for home use 84,985 were distributed through the branches and

other agencies, and 22,920 through the schools: A children's reading room is greatly needed.

Philadelphia, Apprentices' L. Co. (83d rpt. — year ending March 31, 1903.) Added 1181; total not given. Issued, home use 60,225 (fict. 43.917). Readers in ref. rept. 5994. In the children's room 10,541 v. were circulated and there were 18,768 readers.

Providence (R. I.) P. L. (25th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1902.) Added 7053; total 105,977. Issued, home use 123,014 (fict. 58.77%, of which 24.3% is juv. fict.) New registration 5661; total registration 17,693. Receipts \$50,038.22; expenses \$39,663.31.

A most careful exposition of the activities of the library. There has been a large development of reference use within the past few years, and the hours of opening for the reference department have been extended from 9 to 10 p.m. and cover also Sundays and holidays. "One result of the increase in the reference work at the library, and the consequent more definite and specific character of the demands on the library, has been seen in the large number of applications of readers for books not in the library. So far as these represent books no longer new, the increasing number of books procured for our readers from other libraries, by the inter-library loan system, is very significant." There is an increasing tendency to develop methods of reference work in the periodical room; a system of card indexes has been kept up, in continuation of the "cumulative index," "thus bringing it up to date and making it possible to give intelligent answers to the constantly occurring questions of readers."

Ridgefield (Ct.) L. The Elizabeth Morris Memorial building, the gift of James Morris, was transferred to the Ridgefield Library on June 15.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. (F.) L. (9th rpt. — year ending April 30, 1902.) Added 23,855; total 156,092. Issued, home use 778,507, of which 237,531 were issued from the delivery stations and 103,320 as supplementary reading and from depositories. The total home and library use was 1,082,370, an increase of 83,773 over the preceding year. New registration 13,818; total cards in use 54,701. Receipts \$185,225.13; expenses \$104,424.76.

As the report appears more than a year after the period it covers, the chief event it notes — the fulfilment of the second condition of Mr. Carnegie's great gift — is long since familiar. As usual, the report shows a large and most creditable volume of work and widespread activities. The accessions of the year were more numerous and valuable than ever before, with a total of 21,848 purchases and 1545 gifts. Of the home circulation 43 per cent. was through delivery stations and other outside agencies; the issue from the open shelves nearly equaled the number called for at the re-

ceiving desk; and of the juvenile issue considerably more than half was distributed through the schools. "These facts plainly indicate that the open shelf system should be extended, and that the growth of the library's usefulness to the public must come through the extension of its distributing agencies — through the increase of delivery stations, the establishment of branches and a closer co-operation with the schools." The increase in reference use was more than 35 per cent. over the previous year.

Sedalia (Mo.) P. L. (8th rpt. — year ending April 30, 1903.) Added 688; total 4881. Issued, home use 41,487 (fict. 59%). The circulation of children's books was 4841. New registration 1120; total registration 2992. Receipts \$664.38; expenses \$4820.66.

In July, 1902, 1000 copies of printed finding lists were finished at a cost of \$8.75. Printed lists of graded reading have been distributed among the school children, and picture bulletins and special exhibits have been prepared for the children's room.

Sparta (Wis.) P. L. The new Carnegie library building at Sparta was opened informally on May 18. The interior, with its book room, children's room, reading room and conversation room, is most satisfactorily arranged and will meet the requirements of the community for many years to come.

Springfield (Mass.) City L. The library will, about Oct. 1, receive another class of apprentices, to serve for ten months without pay, this term including a vacation of four weeks. An entrance examination for applicants was held on July 8.

The enrollment of children's names for vacation reading was begun at the library in July, and the reading will continue until Sept. 1. The plan followed is similar to that in use during the past three summers, but the 100 books of the selected list are designed for a rather more advanced grade of readers than those of former seasons, due to the fact that many of the children who will read them have been members of all three of the previous vacation classes. To assist in the choice of the five books to be read before Sept. 1, the list has been made up in groups, under various headings, as "At sea," "Out west," "Our country," etc.

Staten Island, New York City. Plans for two of the Carnegie libraries to be erected in the borough of Richmond have been accepted. They are by Carrère & Hastings, and are to be of brick, two stories in height, costing respectively \$10,000 and \$20,500. One is for Port Richmond, opposite the public park; the other for Tottenville.

Tacoma (Wash.) P. L. The new Carnegie

library building was opened on June 5, when an informal public reception was held.

Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L. (43d rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, 1902.) Added 1497; total 137,287. Issued, home use 218,867; ref. use 94,273; Sunday use 2424; holiday use 534. New registration 3956; total registration 42,622. Receipts \$56,545.54; expenses \$53,551.67.

A special appropriation of \$5000 has been devoted to the installation of a steel stack in the upper portion of the stack building, and of glazed cases in the lecture hall for the accommodation of a working library for art students. The revision of the card catalog, begun Sept. 1, 1894, has been completed, including the reclassification and recataloging of all the books in the circulating department and the revision of the catalog cards of the intermediate and Green libraries. "Now there is a complete card catalog of all the books in the building. This is a dictionary, author and subject catalog, and all the entries are in a single alphabet. Complete card catalogs have also been made of the books in the circulating department and of those in the children's room. The latter have been placed in the rooms devoted to those departments of the library, and the main and completed comprehensive catalog is in the Green library (or reference room)." As a result of the completed reclassification it is now possible to extend the privilege of free access more generally. "Hitherto about 10,000 volumes have been placed in different rooms of the library, where they can be handled and used without ceremony; hereafter all the books of the circulating department can be used freely at the shelves by observing the simple ceremony of asking permission."

Of the books issued from the circulating department 13,794 were drawn on teachers' personal cards and 11,961 on cards held by teachers for their pupils.

FOREIGN.

Batterssea (Eng.) P. Ls. (16th rpt. — year ending March 31, 1903.) Added 997; total 51,624, of which 13,997 are in the ref. dept., 20,477 in the central lending library, and 8812 and 8338, respectively, at the two branches. Total issue of books 409,525, of which 30,876 were drawn from the ref. dept.

From the children's libraries 71,834 v. were issued to 3011 borrowers.

Bergen (Norway) P. L. Plans for a new building for the library are now in progress, concerning which the librarian, Miss Valborg Platou, writes: "Although a good deal of money is still needed, we have got a central building site as a free gift from the municipal authorities, and the contributions in money from well-to-do citizens have so far

increased that we hope to be able to begin building a future home for our library next spring." She adds: "On Christmas last I celebrated very quietly the 20th anniversary of my being appointed librarian of the library of Bergen. . . . It is a great thing indeed to work for the enlightening and culture of thousands of men, women and children."

Birmingham (Eng.) F. L. 41st rpt.—year ending March 31, 1903.) Added 12,992; total 282,429, of which 169,923 are in the reference room. Issued, home use 964,736; total issue of books 1,343,510.

In addition to the reference library and central lending library, there are now 10 branches in effective operation.

Croydon (Eng.) P. Ls. (14th rpt., 1902-1903.) Added 3685; total 48,516. Total issue of books (ref. use included) 406,233, an increase of 18,758 over the previous year. The percentage of fiction is given as 57.8.

An exchange of books between central library and branches has been developed by "utilization of the tram service," which permits exchanges to be made within the space of half an hour.

Liverpool (Eng.) P. Ls. (50th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1902.) The completion of the library's half century of existence gives occasion for a review of its work during that period. "During the half century since the foundation of the library upwards of 51 million volumes have been more or less read, besides magazines, reviews and periodicals of all kinds, the number of which cannot be given with accuracy, but which cannot be less than two-thirds of the total of books." There are now 93,991 v. in the lending libraries and 125,206 v. in the reference library. From the lending departments 817,041 v. were issued, and 23,842 borrowers are recorded. In the Picton reading room 295,529 v. were issued.

The chief event of the year was the opening of the Toxteth branch library by Andrew Carnegie.

Nottingham (Eng.) F. P. Ls. (Rpt.—year ending March 31, 1903.) Added 2232; total 106,354, of which 38,616 are in the reference library, 38,221 in the central lending library, and 29,517 in the various branches. The total issue, for home and reference use, was 418,732, an increase of 20,632 over the previous year. The library of books for the blind now contains 550 v. "The percentage of fiction, poetry and the drama is slightly under half of the issues, and continues to decrease as for several years past."

Penarth (Wales) P. L. (7th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1903.) Added 565; total 5278. Issued 27,527.

An attractive branch reading room at Cogan was opened to the public on Nov. 1, 1902.

Gifts and Bequests.

Blue Earth, Minn. W. E. C. Ross, a citizen of Blue Earth, has offered to give to that place a \$10,000 library building. His offer was made after the city council had selected a site as a first step toward securing a Carnegie donation; it has been accepted by the council.

McGill University L., Montreal. Mrs. Peter Redpath of the Manor House, Chislehurst, England, has announced her intention of contributing an additional sum of \$4000 annually to the library of McGill University. For several years past Mrs. Redpath has been giving \$6000, so that henceforth her gift to the library will be \$10,000 a year.

Southampton, Mass. On June 3 at a special town meeting the offer was accepted of Winslow H. Edwards, of Eastampton, to give \$5000 for a library building, on condition that a site be furnished and an appropriation of not less than \$100 be granted annually for maintenance. The building is to be named in honor of Mr. Edwards' father, the gift being in accord with a request made in his will.

Carnegie library gifts.

Beloit (Wis.) College L. June 24. \$50,000.

Laredo, Tex. June 3. \$10,000.

Librarians.

ABBOTT, Miss Jane, formerly librarian of the Lincoln (Neb.) Public Library, has been appointed librarian of the Fremont (Neb.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Edith McDonald.

ABBOTT, Miss Katherine, assistant librarian of the Gail Borden Public Library, Elgin, Ill., has been elected librarian of that library, succeeding the late Miss Cecil Harvey.

BATES, Frank G., state librarian of Rhode Island, has resigned that position to accept the chair of history and political science in Alfred University, New York. His resignation takes effect Sept. 1, when he will be succeeded by Herbert Olin Brigham, for some years past assistant librarian of Brown University Library.

BIRD, Miss Janet, Pratt Institute Library School, class of '94, has resigned her position as librarian of the Millersville (Pa.) State Normal School to accept one in the library of the University of Colorado, Boulder, Col.

BLUNT, Miss Florence Tolman, New York State Library School, class of 1903, has been appointed assistant in the Public Library of Haverhill, Mass.

BORDEN, Miss Fanny, B.L.S., New York State Library School 1900, for three years assistant librarian of Bryn Mawr College, has been appointed associate librarian of Smith College.

CAMERON-TAINTOR, Miss Mabel Grace Taintor, art assistant in the Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass., was married on Saturday, June 6, to Mr. William Henry Cameron, of New Rochelle, N. Y.

CHENEY-CHAMBERLIN, John Vance Cheney, librarian of the Newberry Library of Chicago, was married on July 11 to Mrs. Sara Barker Chamberlain, of Buena Park, Chicago, Ill.

CUMMINGS, Charles, for seven years assistant librarian at the Carnegie Library of Braddock, Pa., has resigned that position to become librarian of the Buell Library, Sharon, Pa. Miss Pearl Brown Jones has been promoted from the charge of the children's department of the Braddock Library to succeed Mr. Cummings.

DEMING, Miss Margaret Childs, New York State Library School, class of 1903, has been appointed librarian of the Public Library of Lorain, O.

DONNELLY, Miss June Richardson, New York State Library School, class of 1903, has been appointed assistant in the Public Library of Cincinnati, O.

GROVE-McCRORY, Miss Harriet McCrory, librarian of the Cedar Rapids (Ia.) Public Library, was married on Wednesday, June 24, to Mr. Frank Hershey Grove, of Hamburg, N. Y. The wedding was held at Mansfield, O., the home of Miss McCrory's grandparents.

JENNINGS, Judson Toll, New York State Library School, class of 1897, has resigned his position as assistant reference librarian of the New York State Library to become librarian of the Public Library of Duquesne, Pa.

KATZ, Miss Louise Waldman, New York State Library School, class of 1903, has been appointed assistant in the cataloging department of the University of California Library, Berkeley, Cal.

LORD, Miss Isabel Ely, B.L.S. New York State Library School 1897, formerly librarian of Bryn Mawr College Library, has accepted the position of assistant librarian of Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y., for the year beginning in August.

PATTEN, Frank C., formerly librarian of the Helena (Mont.) Public Library, and recently at the Lenox Library, has been appointed librarian of the Rosenberg Public Library, Galveston, Tex.

PUTNAM, Herbert, Librarian of Congress, sailed from New York on July 21 for an extended trip in Europe, including a visit to Russia, Norway and Sweden. At the second annual convention of the Gutenberg Gesellschaft, June 28, at Mayence, Mr. Putnam was elected an honorary member of the association.

SEWALL, Willis F., formerly librarian of the Wilmington (Del.) Institute Library, and re-

cently engaged in special bibliographical work at the Grolier Club, New York City, has been elected librarian of the Toledo (O.) Public Library, succeeding Mrs. Frances Jermain, resigned.

SHERMAN, Miss Susan, for five years head of the children's department of the Carnegie Library of Homestead, Pa., has been appointed assistant in the Carnegie Library of Braddock, Pa. She is succeeded at Homestead by Miss Frances Cluley, children's librarian of the Wylie Avenue Branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pa.

SMITH, Miss Mary Alice, New York State Library School, class of 1902, has resigned her position as assistant in the History Division of the New York State Library to become first assistant in the Public Library of Duquesne, Pa.

THOMPSON, Miss Mary E., assistant librarian of the Rogers Free Library, Bristol, R. I., died at her home in Bristol on July 29. Miss Thompson was born in Bristol Oct. 7, 1847, and for thirty-five years had given devoted and faithful service in the Y. M. C. A. and Rogers libraries. Her connection with the latter library was continuous from the time of its original opening in 1878, and the trustees in their memorial resolutions bear witness to "her knowledge of the resources of the library and of the location of its contents, her skill acquired by long experience, her ready willingness to be of service to all who needed her aid, her promptness, her unflinching courtesy, the absence of everything like arrogance or self-assertion towards the humblest and youngest applicant at her desk, her conscientious faithfulness to every detail of her duty, and her unflagging persistence in it." They add, "Her work was the more efficiently done for the reason that she loved it and completely identified herself with it and its surroundings. On the last day that she attempted its duties, though entirely unequal to them, she could not be persuaded to leave the familiar premises, but insisted on being allowed to sit in a retired spot and watch the work in which she could no longer take part."

TROEGER, Andrew, for many years assistant librarian of the Peabody Institute, Baltimore, died at sea on June 3, while returning from a trip to Boston, taken for the benefit of his health. At the annual meeting of the trustees of the Peabody Institute, held on June 11, John Parker, editor of the catalog, was elected first assistant librarian in addition to his duties in looking after the preparation of the catalog, the work on which will be completed by the end of next year.

WATERMAN, Miss Lucy Dwight, graduate of the New York State Library School, class of 1897, who has been assistant in the reference department of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh during the past year, has been ap-

pointed librarian of the Benson Memorial Library at Titusville, Pa.

WHITTLESEY, Miss Julia Margaret, New York State Library School, class of 1903, has been appointed instructor in the library training course of Simmons College, Boston, Mass.

Cataloging and Classification.

The BOSTON BOOK CO. *Bulletin of Bibliography* for July contains a "partial bibliography" of Niagara Falls, by Miss Edith Clarke, which covers six pages.

The CARNEGIE L. OF PITTSBURGH *Bulletin* in the June issue concludes its "List of references on contemporary American painters."

CINCINNATI (O.) P. L. Finding list of German prose fiction. Part 1, Authors; part 2, Titles. Cincinnati. Published by the trustees, 1903. 44 p. F.

The FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for July devotes its special reference list to "Poems for home and field."

JOHN CHERAK L., *Chicago*. Supplement to the list of serials in public libraries of Chicago and Evanston, corrected to April, 1903. Chicago, 1903. 10+101 p. l. O.

The original list was published in 1901; this first supplement includes titles of 4060 serials and 440 references. "Of the titles 1870 occur in the original list, 210 having been reprinted to correct errors or supply information in the original entries and 1660 to give additional information. At least 500 of the latter record the completion of the sets or the filling of gaps." The total number of serials recorded in the original list and supplement is 8840.

LONDON LIBRARY. Catalogue of the London Library, St. James Square, London; by C. T. Hagberg Wright. London, 1903. 14+1626 p. fol.

The NEW YORK P. L. *Bulletin* for July is devoted almost entirely to part 1 of a "List of almanacks, ephemerides, etc., and of works relating to the calendar," arranged in broad class and country divisions. In the June number appeared the third and concluding part of the "List of works on sport in general, and on shooting in particular."

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE L., *San Francisco, Cal.* Technical reference list no. 1: literature available in the library on petroleum, with some references on asphaltum; prepared by Frederick J. Teggart, librarian. San Francisco, May, 1903. 24 p. O.

An interesting and careful piece of analytic work, practically an index to the material on this special subject contained in the library,

and including articles in periodicals and serials, and monographs, as well as separate works. The list is arranged by authors, and paging is given for all analytic entries; it includes 500 titles, and should be useful in all libraries having technical collections. Mr. Teggart plans to issue similar lists on industrial and technical subjects—among them Irrigation, Forestry, Portland cement, Cyanide process, Shipbuilding, and Accounting systems.

NEW YORK STATE L. *Bulletin* 81: bibliography 35: a selection from the best books of 1902; with notes. Albany, University of the State of New York, 1903. p. 200-230. O. 10 c.

The annual annotated list of books recommended for purchase to the public libraries of the state.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE (Eng.) P. L. Catalogue of books on the useful arts (class 600 of Dewey's Decimal classification); by Basil Anderton. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1903. 8+287 p. l. O. bds.

In two parts: author list and D. C. subject list, with subject index appended. A carefully made, compact piece of work. Entries are printed to run across the page, making generally a title a line, with D. C. number in the left-hand margin and book number in the right-hand margin.

The SCRANTON (Pa.) P. L. *Bulletin* for June (ser. 2, no. 3) is devoted to the quarterly author list of accessions from April to June.

VICTORIA P. L. OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA. Catalogue of books. Part 3 [C-Czermak]. Perth [1903]. l. O. sheets.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION, *Madison*. Supplement to the suggestive list of books for a public library, January, 1902-June, 1903. 22 p. O.

The WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION issues *Bibliography bulletins* nos. 5, 6, and 7, devoted respectively to selected lists of books on Physics, Economics, and Sociology. Each list was selected and is annotated by a competent authority—that on physics being the work of C. E. Mendenhall, professor of Physics at the University of Wisconsin, and that on Economics prepared by T. S. Adams, assistant professor of Economics and Statistics in the same university. The lists will be useful guides in other libraries.

WISCONSIN. Supplementary list of books for township libraries of the state of Wisconsin; issued by the state superintendent. May, 1903. Madison, 1903. 126 p. O.

Bibliography.

ANNUAIRE des bibliothèques et des archives pour 1903 (année 18); publiée sous les auspices de Ministère de l'Instruction Publique. Paris, Hachette, 1903. 288 p. 8°.

ARCHAEOLOGY. Bibliography of archæological books, 1902. (*In American Journal of Archaeology*. 2d ser. April-June, 1903. 7: 209-228.)

CHILE. Phillips, P. Lee. A list of books, magazine articles and maps relating to Chile; comp. for the International Bureau of the American Republics. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1903. 110 p. O.

CONJURING. Neil, C. Lang. The modern conjuror and drawing-room entertainer. London, C. Arthur Pearson, Ltd., 1903. 414 p. 8°.

Pages 389-412 contain an interesting bibliography. Publishers and prices are given.

DANTE. Perroni Grande, L. Saggio di bibliografia dantesca. vol. 2. Messina, Ant. Trimarchi (tip. D'Angelo), 1903. 16°.

DEMETRIUS Roberts, W. Rhys. Demetrius on style: the Greek text of Demetrius *De elocutione*, edited after the Paris manuscript; with introduction, translation, facsimiles, etc. Cambridge University Press, 1902. 13+328 p. 8°.

Contains a six-page bibliography.

DIBDIN, Charles. Dibdin, E. Rimbault. A bibliographical account of the works of Charles Dibdin. (*In Notes and Queries*, June 6, 1903. 9th ser. 11: 443-444.)

The years 1797 and 1798 are included in this installment.

EDUCATION. Wyer, James I., jr., and Lord, Isabel Ely. Bibliography of education for 1902; reprinted from the *Educational Review*. New York, June, 1903. p. 49-91. O.

This is the fourth annual issue of this bibliography, and includes 367 titles.

EGYPT. Butler, Alfred J. The Arab conquest of Egypt and the last thirty years of the Roman dominion. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1902. 34+563 p. 8°.

There is a six-page list of the "chief authorities and editions" which is of importance to the student of a difficult historical problem.

CHARLES EVANS, 1045 Pratt ave., Rogers Park, Chicago, Ill., announces that the printing of the first volume of his "American bibliography, 1639-1820" has advanced so far

that the publication date has been set for Sept. 1. Mr. Evans says that "as it is only issued in a limited edition, the few copies unsubscribed for will be soon taken after publication." A sample page of the volume gives an idea of the elaborate method on which the work is planned, showing the record of the Bay Psalm Book, with detailed historical and bibliographical notes.

F. W. FAXON's interesting bibliography of "Ephemeral bibelots," first published in the Boston Book Co.'s *Bulletin of Bibliography* for April, appears as no. 11 of the "*Bulletin of Bibliography* pamphlets," with the title "Modern chap-books and their imitators" (26 p. D.).

FINANCE. Stammhammer, Jos. Bibliographie der Finanzwissenschaft. Jena, Gustav Fischer, 1903. 6+415 p. 8°.

FRANKLIN AND MARSHALL COLLEGE. Dubbs, Joseph Henry. History of Franklin and Marshall College: Franklin College, 1787-1853; Marshall College, 1836-1853; Franklin and Marshall College, 1853-1903. Lancaster, Pa., The Franklin and Marshall College Alumni Association, 1903. 14+402 p. 8°.

The bibliography (pages 382-394) is arranged under the head Franklin College, Marshall College, and Franklin and Marshall College. It includes specimens of the work of members of the faculty, addresses delivered on public occasions, and a few books and pamphlets containing historical information. The arrangement of the titles under the three heads is heterogeneous.

GILLET, Louis Allston. The most useful engineering books. (*In American Machinist*, June 18, 1903. 26: 883-884.)

About a year ago the American Society of Mechanical Engineers requested its members to send a list of what they considered the 20 best reference books. About 120 books were mentioned, the highest number for any one book being 11. These books are here classified and those mentioned more than once have the number of times indicated. When doctors disagree how shall librarians decide?

HOULBERT, C. Les insectes ennemis des livres: leurs mœurs—moyens de les détruire. Paris, A. Picard & Fils. 38+269 p. 8°. 7.50 fr.

This is the monograph that won the Marie Pellechet prize established at the International Congress of Librarians in Paris, in 1900. It is noted in the *Athenæum* (July 18): "The insect enemies of the librarian and his treasures are numerous: no fewer than 32 species of Coleoptera, 4 of Orthoptera, 6 of Pseudo-neuroptera, 9 of Thysanura, 1 of Hymenoptera, and 7 of Lepidoptera are included

by the author in his list; as well as 2 species of Arachnida (never included in this country among insects), and 6 suspects, forming a total of 67 species. To destroy these pests, moreover, great care is necessary, or the books may again suffer in that operation, since some of the processes advised are of an inflammable nature, and only to be adopted with the greatest care and under favorable conditions. Although the libraries of Europe enjoy comparative immunity from the devastations of insects, being free from the causes of scarcity in ancient literature in Central America graphically explained by Humboldt, still the danger is very real, and demands close attention. This book may therefore be commended to the attention of all librarians."

ITALY. Calvi, Em. Biblioteca di bibliografia storica italiana; catalogo tripartito delle bibliografie finora pubblicate sulla storia generale e particolare d'Italia; con prefazione di Alberto Lumbroso. Rome, E. Loescher & Co., 1903. 39 p. 8°, 3.50 l.

Prepared in connection with the meeting of the International Historical Congress, at Rome, April 2-9, 1903; 522 bibliographical works dealing with Italian history are recorded.

KLEEMEIER, F. J., ed. Handbuch der Bibliographie: Kurze Anleitung zur Bücherkunde und zum Katalogisieren. Vienna, Hartleben, 1903. 300 p.

Noted in *Athenæum*, July 25, p. 123. Designed "chiefly for the benefit of the antiquarian dealer. Except to the youthful German dealer, we doubt if this treatise will be of much use. It does not appear to be written from first-hand knowledge of the subject, and the works from which it has been compiled are not always the best."

LEGAL TENDER. Breckinridge, S. P. Legal tender: a study in English and American monetary history (University of Chicago decennial publications, 2d ser., v. 7.). Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1903. 17+181 p. 8°.

Contains a brief bibliography of 49 titles.

LEO XIII. Gay, Harry Nelson. Bibliography of Leo XIII: books and pamphlets treating of the Pope; an attempt to collect and estimate the value of these works. (*In Boston Weekly Transcript*, July 17, 1903.)

NURSING. Roth, E. Bibliographie der gesamten Krankenpflege. (*In Handbuch der Kranken versorgung und Krankenpflege*. bd. 2, abth. 2. Berlin, Hirschwald, 1902. p. 456-1332. 8°.)

Reviewed in *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, July, p. 341-342.

The OFFICE INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE, Brussels, announces a new publication in its "Bibliographia universalis" series. This is a "Bibliographia agronomica universalis: repertoire bibliographique des travaux parus sur l'agriculture," edited by E. Ottavi and A. Marescalchi, with the collaboration of MM. Dewitz and Vermorel. It is published at Casale Monferrato, Italy, by Ottavi frères. This firm will also issue quarterly a series of bibliographical lists of works and articles dealing with agriculture, appearing in Italy, France, Great Britain, Germany, America and elsewhere. The lists will be printed on one side of the sheet, so that titles may be cut out if desired for insertion in card catalogs, and each entry will bear the D. C. class number, as applied to agriculture by M. Vermorel. The quarterly lists will cover only publications appearing since Jan. 1, 1903.

P., A. V. de. Marie Pellechet, bibliographer. (*In The Month*, June, 1903. p. 598-603.)

A sympathetic account of the bibliographical work of the late Mlle. Pellechet.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

The following are supplied by Catalogue Division, Library of Congress.

"Livy" is a pseud. of Livingston, Charles Adolphe. The path of the soul.

Olmsted, Frank Lincoln, is the editor of The fur traders of the Columbia River and the Rocky Mountains as described by Washington Irving.

Sutro, Esther Stella, "Mrs. Alfred Sutro," is the comp. of Thoughts from Maeterlinck.

Viller, Fredrik, is a pseud. of Sparre, Christian, 1859-. The black tortoise.

Woodberry, George Edward, 1855-, is the editor of Olmsted, Mrs. Elizabeth M. Poems of the house and other poems.

Humors and Blunders.

A gentlemanly stranger once asked in a library for "a genealogy." "Which one?" asked the librarian. "Oh, any," was the reply. "Well—Savage's?" "No; white men."

"THIS THING MUST END."—The stodgy-faced boy at the last table in the public library reading room is having a struggle most serious. He has covered both sides of a foolscap sheet with a vague smudge over which he still labors. His twisted mouth follows the motion of the creaking pencil. Before him Green's "Shorter history of the English people" lies open at the year 1688.

Of all the two pages, only so much is decipherable:

"The Abdication of Jams II.

"The English people had born a grate deel from James 2nd, but when at last he gave birth to a son they said this thing must end."—Adele Marie Shaw, in *The World's Work*.

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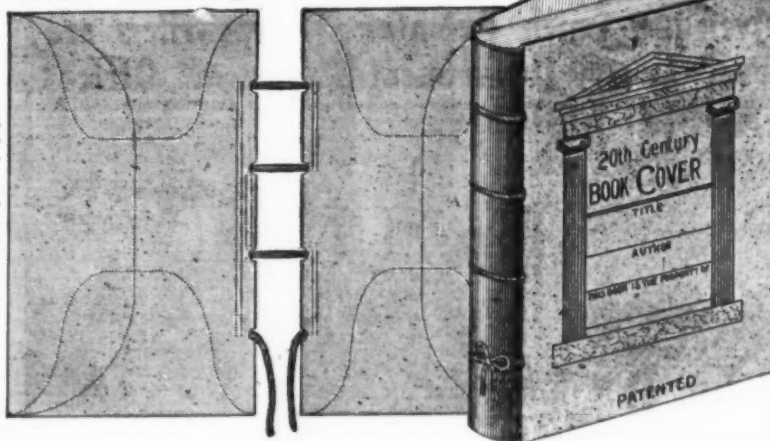
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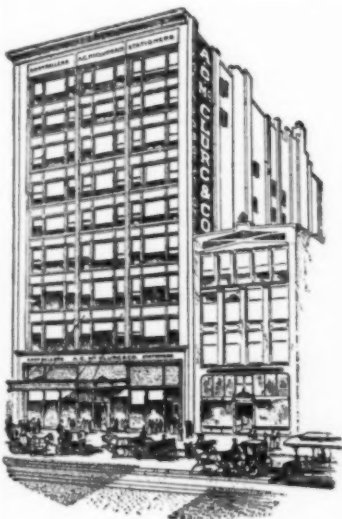
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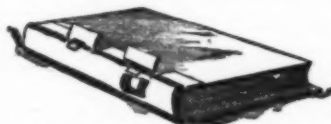
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